GUILLEM MARCH

LAURA

AND OTHER STORIES

FROM THE ARTIST OF DC'S **THE JOKER** SERIES!

ABLAZE

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LAURA





I.SONGS

a book by
GUILLEM
MARCH













THE SENSATION OF WELL-BEING THAT ONE EXPERIENCES WHEN BEING WITH ANOTHER PERSON MAY BE DUE TO THE BRAIN SECRETING MAJOR AMOUNTS OF DOPAMINE AND NOREPINEPHRINE. THIS MAY CAUSE A LOSS OF APPETITE AND INSOMNIA. IF IT ALSO PROVOKES AN INCREASE OF SERATONIN, WE ENTER AN OBSESSIVE STATE.



THIS OBSESSIVE STATE IS KNOWN AS FALLING IN LOVE.

IF THE LOVE ISN'T RECIPROCATED, THIS ALTERED STATE MAY STABILIZE AND GIVE WAY TO RESIGNATION OR EVEN DEPRESSION.

DEPRESSION: IT IS A SYNDROME CHARACTERIZED BY A DEEP SORROW AND THE INHIBITION OF PHYSICAL AND NEUROLOGICAL FUNCTIONS.

IT SEEMS LIKE A LIFETIME, YET ONLY TWO MONTHS HAVE GONE BY.

WHEN WE SAW EACH OTHER EVERY DAY.

HI HANDSOME, ARE YOU BUSY?

LAURA, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO DIAL YOUR NUMBER.

DO YOU WANT TO GO ANYWHERE IN PARTICULAR?

CLICK.

LAURA, YOU CAN BE REALLY SILLY SOMETIMES. YOU ACT LIKE A CHILD.

I KEPT REPEATING TO MYSELF "WE CAN JUST BE FRIENDS." JUST FRIENDS.

I SCREWED IT UP.

ALWAYS ON THE MOVE, WHEN I WAS WITH HIM ANYTHING WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. I WOULDN'T BE SO BROKEN DOWN IF I HADN'T DEVELOPED SUCH A DEPENDENCY.

I THOUGHT IT WAS MUTUAL.

SOMETIMES I FELT LIKE HE WANTED ME AS MORE THAN A FRIEND.

LAURA, WHAT A FOOL YOU HAVE BEEN.

LISTENING TO MUSIC ONLY MAKES ME FEEL BLUE.

THEY ALL TALK ABOUT THE SAME THING. I DON'T KNOW IF THIS CONSOLES ME OR MAKES ME FEEL LIKE EVERYONE ELSE

I CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS LOST WEIGHT FROM DEPRESSION. ME, THE GIRL NOT ABLE TO FOLLOW A DIET MORE THAN TWO DAYS.

I CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONE THAT DOES STUPID THINGS LIKE WEARING THE SCARF HE FORGOT THAT SMELLS LIKE HIM.

THE SAME SCARF THAT GAVE ME AN EXCUSE TO SEE HIM ONE LAST TIME.

THANKS FOR BRINGING IT BACK. IT WASN'T NECESSARY. SORRY I CAN'T GO OUT NOW. PAZ IS HERE.

IT'S OK. WE CAN HANG OUT ANOTHER DAY.

SURE.

"SURE."

WELL, HOW ARE YOU?

GREAT, CAN'T YOU TELL?

LIAR.

I'M HAPPY TO HEAR IT.

HEY, THE SCARF SMELLS LIKE YOU.

OH, DOES IT? WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO WASH IT.

AGAIN THE SWEET-SOUR SENSATION.

I HAVE TOO MUCH FREE TIME. THAT'S NO GOOD.

IN HIGH SCHOOL I WAS QUITE GOOD AT ART. I GUESS IT WAS A GOOD TIME TO TAKE UP A HOBBY. OTHERWISE, I WAS GOING CRAZY.

I AM SO JEALOUS.

ABOUT WHAT?

THOSE TWO OVER THERE GROPING EACH OTHER.

IS IT REALLY NECESSARY TO SHOW OFF IN FRONT OF ME LIKE THAT?

IN FRONT OF US, YOU MEAN.

OH, COME ON. EVEN IF SHE'S FAR AWAY, YOU'VE GOT PAZ. I AM ALONE.

YOU HAVE BOTH PAZ AND ME.

YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

YOU'LL SEE. SOMEDAY YOU WILL FIND SOMEONE.

I'D RATHER THAT SOMEONE FOUND ME.

IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME. IN THE END, ALL THE PIECES WILL FALL INTO PLACE

BESIDES, THEIR RELATIONSHIP IS AT ITS PEAK. IN NO TIME THE SPARK WILL DISAPPEAR, AND IF THEY DECIDE TO LOVE EACH OTHER THEY MAY END UP LIKE THOSE TWO OVER THERE.

WOW, WHAT A WAY TO DESCRIBE IT.

THAT'S LIFE.

AFFECTION REMAINS. PASSION HAS AN EXPIRATION DATE.

IF THEY DECIDE TO LOVE EACH OTHER? DO YOU THINK THAT PEOPLE GET TO CHOOSE WHO THEY WANT TO LOVE?

OF COURSE! FOOLISH INFATUATION IS JUST THE BEGINNING. TO CONTINUE OR NOT IS A CONSCIOUS DECISION TO LOVE EACH OTHER.

AND AT WHICH POINT WOULD YOU AND PAZ BE, MARCOS?

WELL, LOVE IS NOT A STRAIGHT LINE.

IT WOULD BE MORE LIKE...

I DON'T KNOW...

CLAY.

HE STRIKES BACK VICIOUSLY. THE CROWD GOES WILD.

HEY, CLEVER BOY, YOU SHOULD FACE THE SUN, AND WE'D SEE HOW WELL YOU...

AND ANOTH-ER ONE.

OUGH

WHAT'S UP, LAURA? TOO GOOD FOR YOU?

WHAT?

WOW, I CAN BARE-LY SEE ANYTHING.

COME ON. THERE'S A FULL MOON TONIGHT.

ARE THERE ANY JELLYFISH?

WHY? FEELING HUNGRY?

DON'T SAY NONSENSE-AHHHH

YOU SPLASHED ME. AND IT'S FREEZING.

MARCOS!

HAPPY NOW?

Flop

MARCOS?

LAURA, THAT FRIEND OF YOURS, ELENA, IS COMING UP.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN BED THIS LATE? GEEZ.

OH MY GOSH, WHAT A MESS... YOU COULD DUST A LITTLE, COULDN'T YOU?

MUM, I'LL DO IT LATER, OK?

IT'S SO DISGUSTING.

I SAID I'LL CLEAN LATER, MUM

ALWAYS LATER.

YOUR MOM IS GRUMPY, EH?

IT'S HER USUAL STATE. I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE. HOW'S IT GOING?

PERFECT! BUT THE QUESTION IS: HOW ARE YOU?

ME? OKAY.

BULLSHIT, LAURA.

I'M JUST TEMPORARILY DOWN. I'LL GET OVER IT.

IT'S GOOD YOU KNOW THAT THIS SITUATION IS JUST TEMPORARY, BUT SITTING HERE ISN'T GOING TO HELP MUCH.

DAMNIT. DRAWING HIM ISN'T GOING TO HELP EITHER.

I LOVE WAL-LOWING IN MY DESPAIR.

THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE, REALLY. SOMETIMES YOU CAN BE A MORON.

THANKS FOR YOUR HONESTY.

YOU'RE WELCOME. DANG, IT'S A GOOD THING I'M HERE. YOU'RE WORSE THAN I EXPECTED.

TOMORROW IS A HOLIDAY SO WE ARE PARTYING HARD

YOU NEED A FLING WITH A GUY RIGHT NOW.

LET'S BET.

ON WHAT?

THE FIRST ONE TO GET LUCKY.

I PASS. I'M NOT IN THE MOOD TODAY.

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.

YOU COULD HAVE TOLD ME THAT WE WERE GOING BY BUS. I DON'T HAVE A PASS.

IF YOU WOULD GET YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE THESE PROBLEMS.

WHY DON'T YOU GET YOURS?

TOO MUCH WORK AT THE SHOP. I HAVE NO TIME.

SHIT. IT COMES JUST WHEN I LIGHT UP.

YOU'RE ADDICTED TO THEM?

NO WAY, I CAN QUIT WHENEVER I WANT.

SURE, I'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE.

IT'S TRUE.

OF COURSE.

LOOK, I DON'T CARE. I DON'T HAVE TO GIVE ANY EXPLANATION.

DO YOU KNOW WHO SENT ME A FRIEND REQUEST?

WHO?

PATRICK.

DO I KNOW HIM?

I DIDN'T ACTUALLY KNOW HIS NAME. AT THE SHOP WE STARTED CALLING HIM THAT BECAUSE HE LOOKS JUST LIKE THE GUY FROM "GHOST." WHAT A PITY HE'S GOT ZITS ON HIS FACE.

I DON'T CARE.

IT'S SO OBVIOUS HE FLIRTS WITH ME... I THINK HE ONLY BUYS SHIRTS TO COME AND SEE ME. I MAY SAY SOMETHING TO HIM NEXT TIME.

I DON'T CARE.

POOR GUYS. I SNAP THEM UP IMMEDIATELY.

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN

MARCOS, STOP IT.

YOU'RE SCARING ME. IT'S BEEN A WHILE...

GO TO HELL. YOU HEAR ME? GO TO...

MARCOS.

AAAAAH WHAT ARE YOU DOING? LET ME DOWN.

OK.

YOU JERK.

I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A BRIGHT MOON. IF I SAW IT PAINTED LIKE THIS SOMEWHERE I WOULD THINK IT WAS FAKE.

LAURA.

WHAT?

I WANT TO GIVE YOU TWO THINGS.

THE FIRST IS THE MOON.

HA,HA,HA. THANKS, CAN I TAKE IT HOME?

I WILL PUT IT ON MY BEDSIDE TABLE.

OF COURSE. IT'S YOURS.

WOW, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...

NO ONE HAS EVER GIVEN ME ONE BEFORE.

IT'S COLD.

DON'T LOSE IT WHEN IT WANES.

LAURA.

LAURA.

LAURA.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. YOU FELL ASLEEP WHILE YOU WERE FLOATING ON YOUR BACK.

-COUGH- YOU MADE -COUGH- ME SWALLOW WATER..

IMAGINE YOU DRIFT AWAY AND WAKE UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN..

THEN I WOULD HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL MY GRANDCHILDREN.

IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME TO WAKE YOU UP. WHAT WERE YOU DREAMING ABOUT?

NO IDEA, I DON'T...

WAIT, YES.

WHAT CAN A NIGHT BRING ALONG?
HOW MUCH CAN YOU LEARN ABOUT ANOTHER PERSON AND
HOW MUCH CAN YOU FIND OUT ABOUT YOURSELF?
HOW MANY SECRETS WILL THEY FIND OUT?
SO MANY LITTLE DOORS OPEN LEADING
TO EVEN SMALLER HIDDEN DOORS.

SILENCE CAME AND WENT.
MANY PEOPLE DON'T
FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH
SILENCE.

I LEARNED TO
VALUE IT.

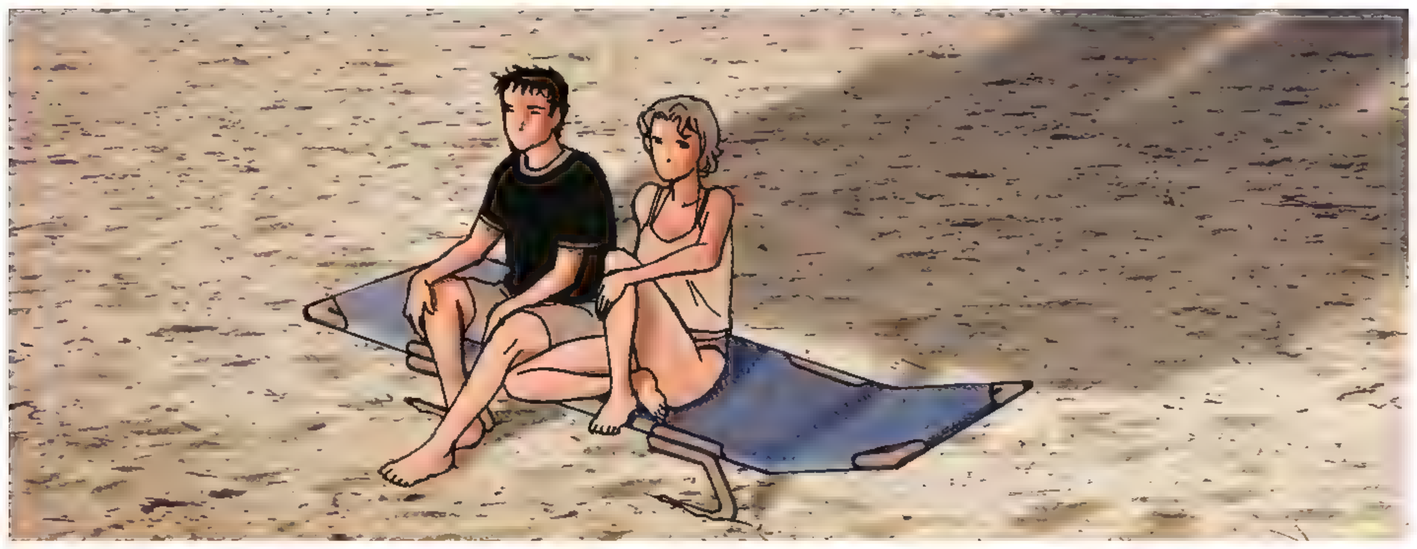
THAT NIGHT I WAS HAPPY.

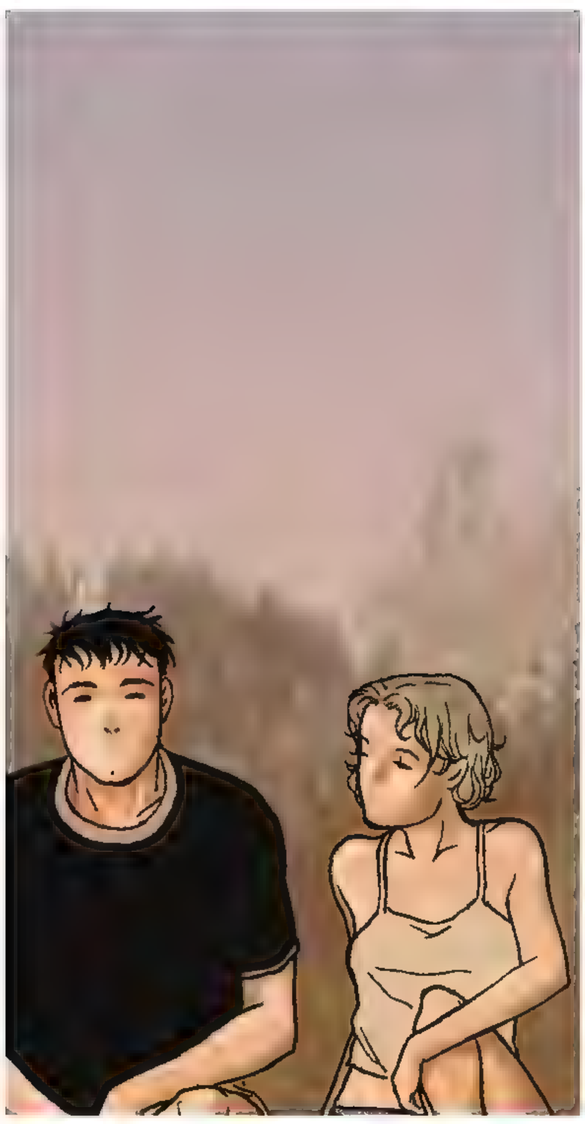
NOT ONLY DO I REMEMBER IT LIKE THAT.
IN THAT MOMENT I WAS CONSCIOUS OF IT.
THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN MUCH TO ME.

AND WHEN IT DOES, I KNOW IT WON'T
LAST LONG.

ONLY AS LONG AS
THE NIGHT LASTS.

AFTER SPENDING A NIGHT OPENING SO MANY DOORS, OPENING ONE LAST DOOR MADE SENSE TO ME.



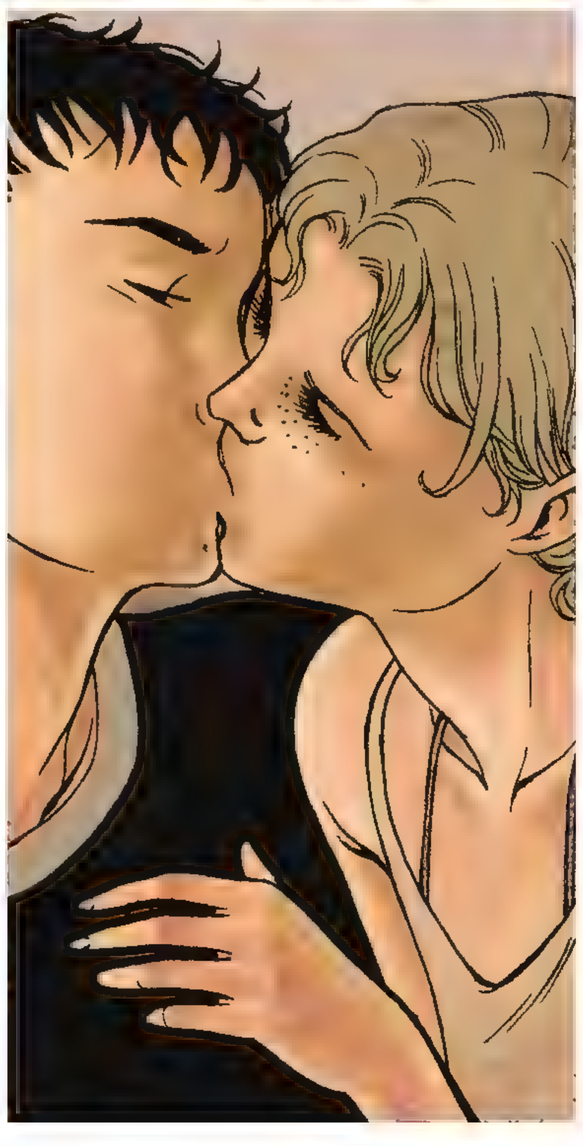
















HEY, LAURIE, ARE YOU HERE WITH ME?

NO. I MEAN, YES,

COOL. THEN SWITCH INTO PARTY MODE.

NO MORE CRYING TONIGHT.

WHAT A FOOL.

IF YOU WANT TO MEET UP TOMORROW THEN WE CAN CHAT...

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU, BUT IT'S NOT A GOOD TIME. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT... I LOVE PAZ.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE KISSED YOU. YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH I REGRET IT...

BUT I WENT ALONG WITH IT. SHIT, I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

DON'T SAY THAT. IT MAKES ME FEEL BAD.

YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU SO MUCH, LAURA. WE WON'T SEE EACH OTHER VERY OFTEN BUT I KNOW YOU'RE THERE, AND THAT WE ARE FRIENDS...

I HAVE THE OPPOSITE FEELING. I FEEL LIKE I'M LOSING YOU. PAZ IS ARRIVING THIS WEEK SO IT'S LOGICAL THAT YOU WANT TO BE WITH HER.

I'M SORRY YOU THINK I DON'T WANT TO BE WITH YOU.

IT'S WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE TOLD EACH OTHER THAT WE WOULD ALWAYS BE THERE FOR EACH OTHER WHEN WE NEED IT? I ALWAYS TOOK IT FOR GRANTED.

WELL... I'LL CALL YOU LATER. HAVE A NICE TIME WITH PAZ. I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD TELL YOU TO SAY HI FOR ME.

WHY WOULDN'T I? YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN FRIENDS.

II.NAILS AND BANKS

LAURA

EXIT

YAWNNNNN

EHEM, EHEM.

STOP YAWNING AND COUGHING. YOU'LL LOSE ANYWAY.

JUST LIKE OLD TIMES, FIRST SOME GAMES TO KILL TIME. THEN WE HAVE DINNER AS LATE AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE'LL BE FULL BEFORE DRINKING.

THERE IS NO ACTUAL PARTY UNTIL ELEVEN, SO WE STROLL SLOWLY ALONG THE PROMENADE, WHICH HAS BEEN THE "OFFICIAL" DRINKING AREA THE LAST FEW YEARS.

ELENA IS LIKE A PARTY PLANNER. SHE KNOWS EVERYBODY.

XESC, LONG TIME NO SEE.

ELENA. HOW ARE YOU, CUTEY?

AWESOME. LOOK, THIS IS LAURA, A FRIEND OF MINE.

HI.

SHE IS A BIT DOWN BECAUSE HER BOYFRIEND JUST DUMPED HER.

WELL, THAT CALLS FOR A CELEBRATION.

DRINKS ARE ON ME, WHAT DO YOU WANT?

BOYFRIEND?

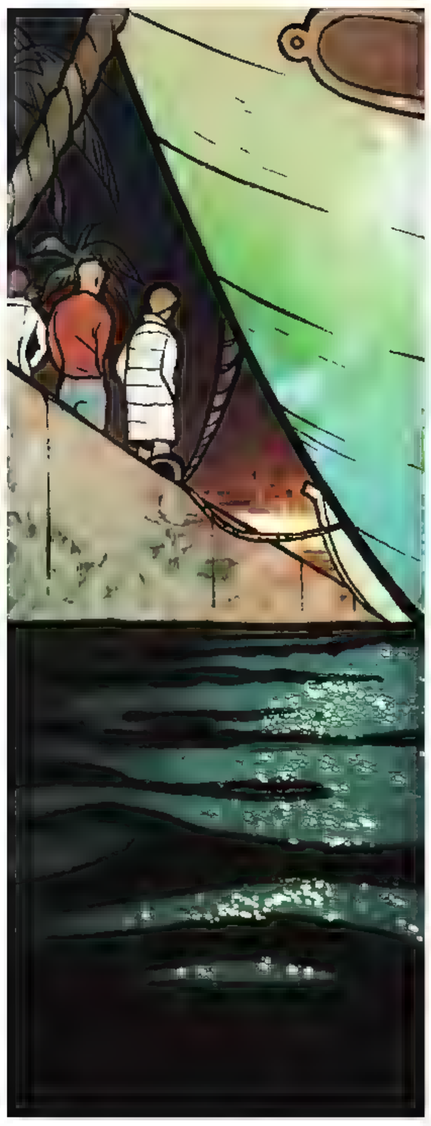
WELL, A FRIEND WITH BENEFITS?

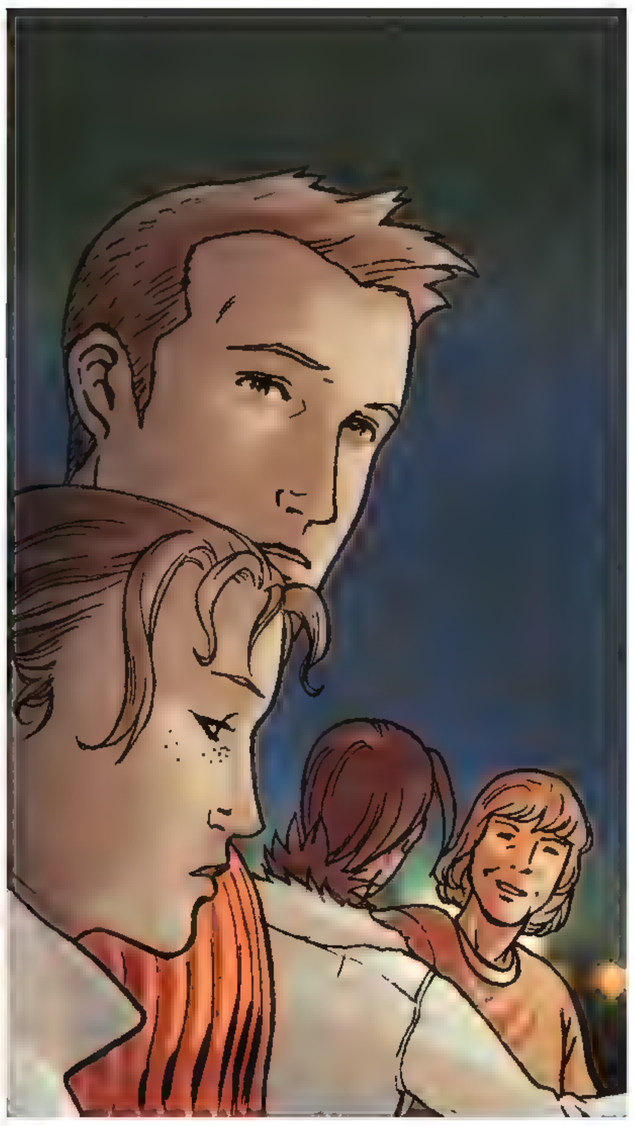
MAY I ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING, LAURA? YOU HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING THE WHOLE TIME. WE CAME HERE TO HAVE FUN, DAMNIT.

THESE TWO ASKED IF WE WANT TO GO DANCING WITH THEM? ARE YOU IN?

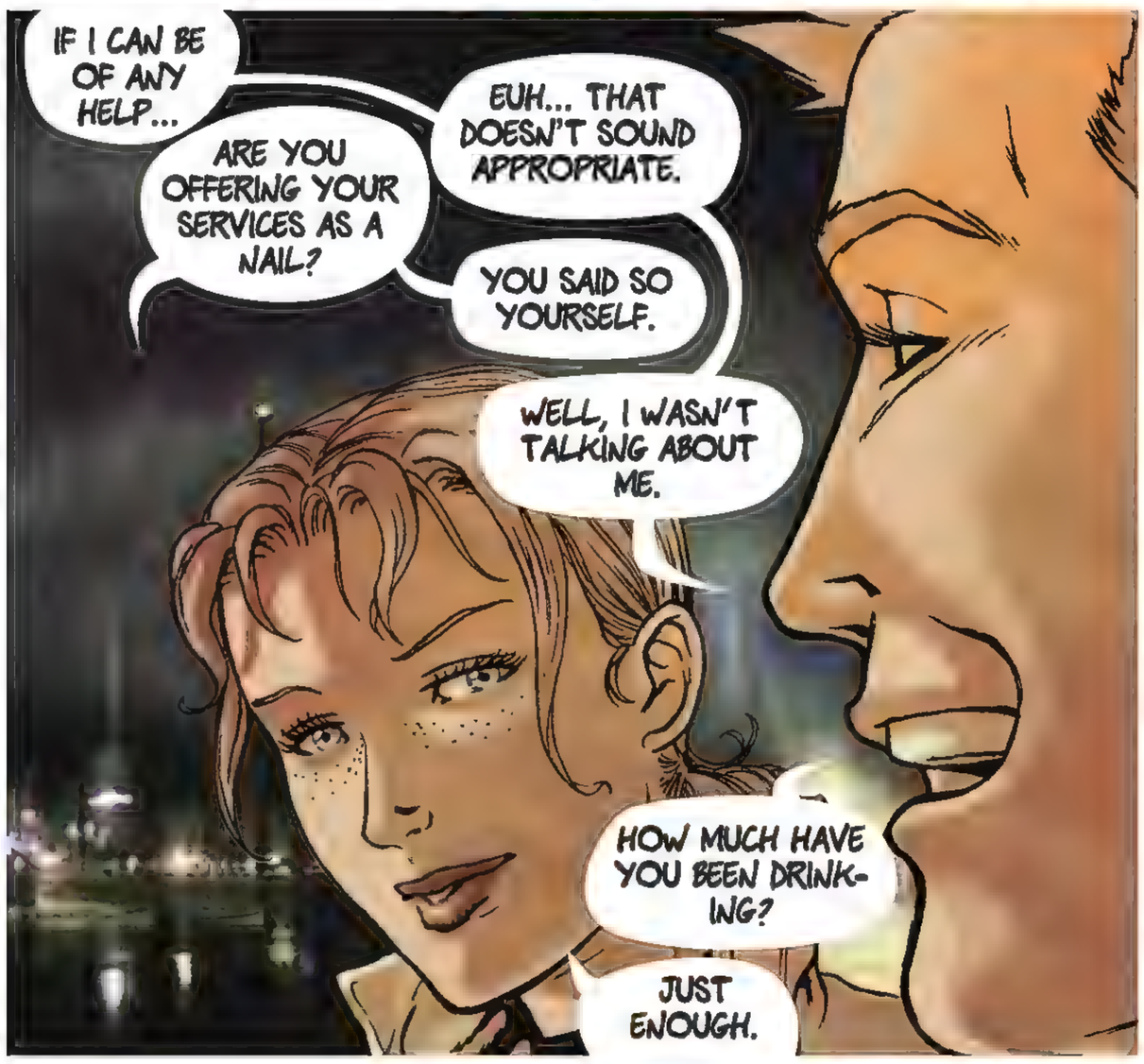
WHATEVER.

THAT'S THE ATTITUDE. POSITIVE. COME ON, MOVE YOUR SORRY ASS.



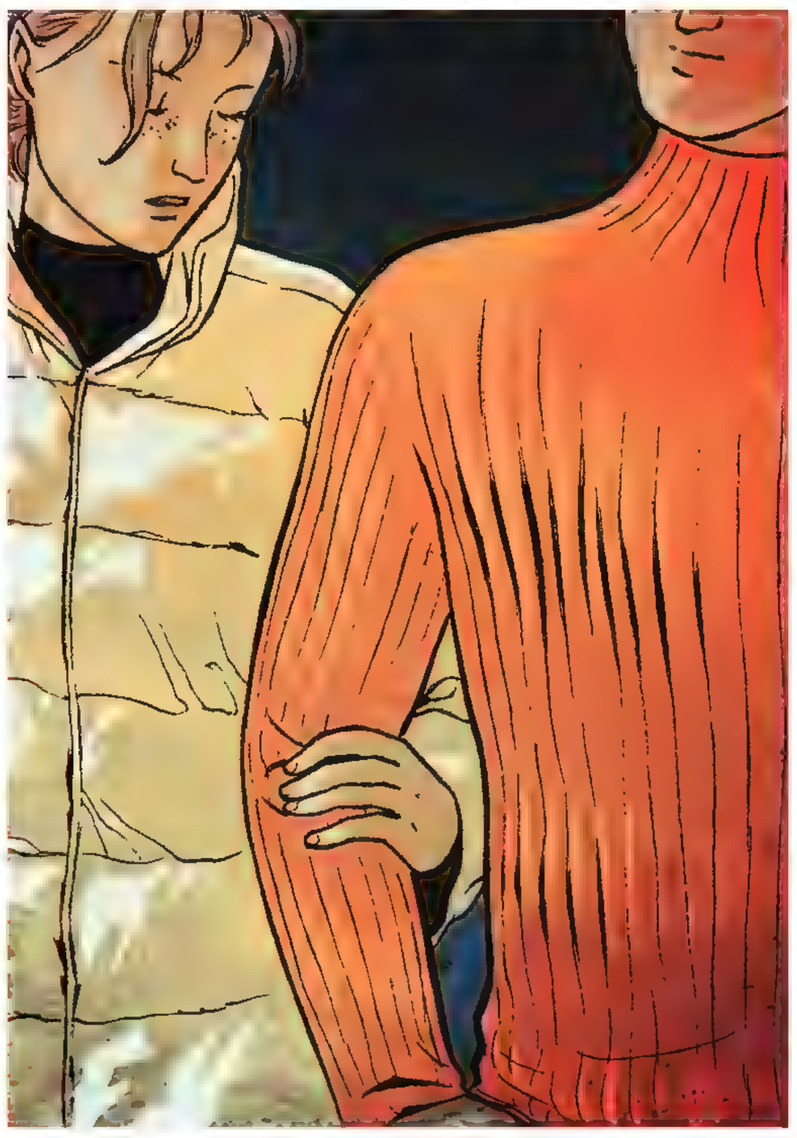



A NAIL IS REMOVED WITH ANOTHER NAIL.
SORRY?
ABOUT YOUR SPLIT UP WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND.
ACTUALLY, WE NEVER REALLY DATED.
OH, WELL, BUT DOES HE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL FOR HIM? HAVE YOU TOLD HIM?
YES, MORE OR LESS.
AND HE DOESN'T...?
NOPE.
SORRY.


IF I CAN BE OF ANY HELP...
ARE YOU OFFERING YOUR SERVICES AS A NAIL?
EUH... THAT DOESN'T SOUND APPROPRIATE.
YOU SAID SO YOURSELF.
WELL, I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT ME.
HOW MUCH HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING?
JUST ENOUGH.


BY THE WAY, NO OFFENSE, BUT...WHAT'S YOUR NAME? I HAVE A TERRIBLE MEMORY.
LUIS.
LUIS, OKAY. I'M LAURA.
I KNOW, I HEARD BEFORE. NICE NAME FOR A NICE GIRL.






THANK YOU.

DO I MAKE YOU FEEL UNCOM-FORTABLE?

NO, OF COURSE NOT. WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?

YOU FEEL A BIT STIFF.

YOU ARE LIKE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE BUT SEEM FAMILIAR.

I'VE NEVER BEEN DESCRIBED LIKE THAT.

PAY ME NO ATTENTION. LATELY, I'M IN NEED OF A BIT OF AFFECTION.

I MAY BE SOME HELP. IT JUST HAPPENS THAT I'M AN AFFECTION BANK.

IS THAT TRUE? HA HA HA. YOU COULD GIVE ME SOME, COULDN'T YOU?

GIVE YOU? NO WAY.

BUT I CAN LEND YOU SOME. I GIVE SOME TO YOU, AND YOU GIVE IT BACK TO ME LATER, WHAT DO YOU THINK? THAT'S HOW BANKS WORK.

HMMMM, DON'T KNOW. I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT. OTHER BANKS HAVE FOOLED ME WITH THE FINE PRINT.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR AFFAIRS? ANY BABES ON THE HORIZON?

WELL, NOT REALLY.

HOW IS THAT?

I'M ACTUALLY GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE.

NO WAY. THE ONE NIGHT STAND KING IS OFFICIALLY GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE. I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT.

WELL, YES.

AND ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT YOU NOT BEING MADE FOR MONOGAMY AND ALL THAT SHIT?

THAT YOU WERE YOUNG AND YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DEPEND ON ONE PERSON, BLAH, BLAH.

I ACTUALLY BELIEVED YOU.

HAHA. YOU ARE ACTUALLY WORSE THAN I AM!

THAT'S ALSO TRUE.

HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

LET'S SEE, I HAD SEEN HER A FEW TIMES AT PARTIES AND AT ONE OF THEM WE ENDED UP MAKING OUT.

DURING THE WEEK I COULDN'T GET HER OUT OF MY HEAD. I WAS SO HOOKED THAT I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HER. THAT WAS NEW FOR ME, SO WE WENT OUT AGAIN, AND...

YOU HAVE TO INTRODUCE HER TO ME. I WANT TO KNOW HOW SHE'S ACHIEVED SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

RIGHT NOW SHE'S VISITING HER PARENTS. HER NAME IS ALBA.

ALBA?

YEP.

IS SHE PRETTY?

SHE HAS SOMETHING.

ISN'T SHE THE BEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD?

WELL, SHE HAS HER UPS AND DOWNS. BUT IT'S OK FOR ME.

YOU DON'T LOOK IN LOVE.

WELL, SORRY I'M KEEPING IT REAL.

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT GOING ANYWHERE IN PARTICULAR?

YES, THERE'S A BIOPARTY TONIGHT.

BIOPARTY?

THE BIOLOGY STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY THROW GREAT PARTIES.

DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T LIKE DANCING.

EH

HAS ANYONE TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT YOU'RE NUTS?

WHO? ME? I AM FAR TOO RESPONSIBLE.

YOU DON'T LOOK IT.

I AM IN PARTY MODE NOW.

IT MUST BE THAT.

WHAT OTHER THINGS DO YOU DO IN PARTY MODE?

I COULD JUST KISS YOU.

YOU MEAN, YOU'D TRY.

WOULDN'T YOU KISS ME BACK?

MAYBE.

MAYBE?

THAT'S WHAT I SAID.

THEN THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO KNOW, ISN'T THERE?

UP TO YOU.

ANYWAY, THIS KISS WOULDN'T COUNT.

EH?

WHY?

A KISS IS NOT STOLEN, ASKED OR ANNOUNCED.

I KEEP IT FOR WHEN YOU DON'T EXPECT IT.

SO? I SENSE THERE ARE GOOD VIBRATIONS WITH LUIS, DON'T YOU THINK?

WHY WOULD YOU SAY SUCH A THING?

LAURA, DEAR. YOU CAN TELL ME.

WELL, YES, HE'S OKAY, THAT GUY.

SURE, SUUUURE.

HE'S OKAY? COME ON, HE'S HOT. I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE OUT TONIGHT.

BETTING ON IT? DO YOU HAVE CASH FOR THE COATROOM?

YOU KNOW I'M VERY CLUMSY WITH BOYS.

JUST SMILE. YOU KNOW HOW TO DO THAT, DON'T YOU?

I'LL FLIRT A LITTLE WITH XESC. WE'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE FOR A WHILE.

LET'S GO TO THE BAR, I NEED A DRINK.

I'M TIRED OF BEING A SPECTATOR OF MY OWN LIFE.

ALWAYS WAITING FOR THINGS TO HAPPEN AS IF THEY WERE NONE OF MY BUSINESS.

I FEEL STUPID WITH THESE PONYTAILS.

SO STOP WASTING TIME.

I'M NOT SO BAD, AM I? LET'S SHOW A LITTLE BIT MORE. I HAVE NEVER BEEN SO THIN.

LAURA, THIS IS THE NIGHT. YOU'RE NEVER GONNA BE TWENTY AGAIN.

TONIGHT.

WHERE WERE YOU?
WHERE IS HE?
LUIS?
LOOK AT THE BAR BEHIND YOU.
CAREFUL, BABE.
THE VODKA HITS QUICKLY.
BETTER THAT WAY WE SAVE TIME.
DID YOU SEE THE GIRL IN STRIPES? DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT SHE'S CATI'S COUSIN?
IS SHE SINGLE?
YEP, TELL HER TO GIVE YOU HER NUMBER, IF YOU DON'T PROFIT FROM IT, I'LL DO IT.
DON'T YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND, YOU SCAVENGER?
EH. WHO MAY BE...
MARINA?
NO.
TANIA?
NO.
ISA?
NO.
CECI?
NEITHER.
LAURA, I KNEW IT WAS YOU.
YOU LIAR
LUIS, TIME TO DANCE ON THE STAGE.
WHAT? I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT.
C'MON, THIS IS A BLAST.

DO YOU LIVE WITH YOUR PARENTS?

THEN, I CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER... WILL YOU BE ABLE TO GET TO YOUR BED?

EH...YES, YES, BYE.

YOU'RE WELCOME.

STOP THAT HUMMING, PLEASE.

YOU'RE A BITCH, ELENA.

EVERYTHING IS GOING ROUND.

AND AROUND,

AND AROUND.

BITCH.

BITCH.

STOP THE HUMMING...

NEVER AGAIN, NEVER AGAIN. NEVER AGAIN.

BITCH.

THIS IS THE LAST TIME I...

BLEEERG

AND YOU, LUIS, WHAT A PIECE OF...

BREATHE.

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY LONGER.

IS THIS NEVER ENDING?

BREATHE.

BREATHE.

TRY TO RAISE YOUR HEAD.

BLEEERG

LAURIE... ARE YOU SICK?


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Yes
No


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LAURA
III.TIME
PARC DE LA MAR
CANODROM
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Instituts
CLUB DE TENIS
PASSEIG MARÍTIM
MOLLS COMERCIALS
CATEDRAL

IT'S SUNDAY AGAIN, AND THIS TIME I'M NOT STAYING AT HOME.

I BELIEVE I DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS LEFT. IT'S OFFICIAL.

SO BEFORE HAVING ANOTHER BREAKDOWN, I'D RATHER GO OUT FOR SOME VITAMIN D.

OUCH, I SHOULD GO BACK TO THE GYM...

AND THEN I...

IS HE JUST POSING OR DOES HE LIKE BEING ALONE?

MAYBE HE ISN'T GOING OUT WITH ANYONE?

LIKE ME.

WHAT BOOK IS HE READING?

HAS HE REALIZED I'M LOOKING AT HIM?

WOULD THE NEW LAURA DARE TO SAY SOMETHING?

HI, MOM, HI, RUGRAT.

HI, LAURIE.

NOW I TRY TO SPEND AS LITTLE TIME AT HOME AS POSSIBLE.

SEE YOU.

THE MORE THINGS YOU DO, THE MORE TIME YOU GAIN FOR OTHER STUFF. IT'S TRUE, I'VE TRIED IT.

HOW MANY LESSONS HAVE YOU TAKEN?

ALMOST FORTY.

YOU OUGHT TO START THINKING OF TAKING THE EXAM.

THIS ONE IS FOR YOU, ELENA.

AND THIS ONE FOR YOU, LUIS.

THERE ARE ALWAYS MOMENTS WHEN YOU CAN'T AVOID THINKING STUFF OVER.

YET I HAVE LEARNED TO DISCONNECT QUICKLY.

NEXT STEP, OVERCOMING THE SHAME OF GETTING NAKED IN PUBLIC.

HI, MOM. I'M NOT HUNGRY. I'M GOING TO SLEEP.

WAIT A MINUTE, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.

WHAT?

HAVE YOU BEEN SICK LATELY?

YOU HAVE NO IDEA.

SICK?

IN WHAT SENSE?

I ASKED ALBERT WHAT HE HAD DRAWN, AND HE TOLD ME "SICK LAURIE."

HAVE YOU BEEN PUKING?

WHO? ME? NEVER. THAT KID'S GOOFY.

LAURA, DO YOU THINK I'M STUPID?

SWEETIE, YOU EAT LESS AND LESS, AND THE LITTLE YOU DO EAT, YOU PUKE UP. WE'RE GOING TO A DOCTOR.

JUST WHAT I NEEDED. MY MOTHER THINKS I'M ANOREXIC.

IT TOOK ME AGES TO CONVINCE HER THAT EVERYTHING WAS OK, WITHOUT MENTIONING THE BINGE.

I REALIZE THAN I'M FORGETTING ABOUT MARCOS WHEN I READ MY HOROSCOPE AND I FORGOT TO READ HIS.

Libra
24 sep.- 23 oct.
Amor. Alguien te echará una mano estos días, cuando

BEEP-BEEP

MESSAGE.

HIM?

TOO MUCH OF A COINCIDENCE.

BURGER TOMORROW? 1:30 AT SPAIN SQUARE. COME PLEZ. XXX YOUR ELENA.

BITCH.

BEFORE, I USED TO GET MY WIRES CROSSED WHEN OUR LOVE SECTION DIDN'T MATCH.

ONE OF THE MANY SILLY THINGS I USED TO DO.

PLEASE, DARLING.

JUST A QUESTION.

DO YOU WANT MY CHILD TO EAT?

DO YOU WANT MY CHILD TO EAT?

I'M SORRY.

PLEASE, DARLING.

NOT MY RESPONSIBILITY.

SORRY I'M LATE.

I GOT HERE EARLY. HOW IS EVERYTHING?

OKAY.

FANTASTIC. I'M GLAD.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

DO YOU LIKE THAT BURGER PLACE?

IT'S OKAY FOR ME.

GREAT, I LOVE THAT SHIT.

ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AT THE DISCO...

I'M NOT SURE IF I WANT TO KNOW.

I HAVE LEARNED I'M THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN SOLVE MY OWN PROBLEMS.

SO I QUIT ACTING LIKE A VICTIM AND WORRYING ABOUT NOTHING.

ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS, ARE YOU REFERRING TO MARCOS? ARE YOU OVER IT?

YEAH, I MOVED ON.

SURE?

I SAID YES, SERIOUSLY.

OKAY, OKAY.

ANYWAY, I WASN'T JUST TALKING ABOUT MARCOS. I WAS TALKING ABOUT INNER PROBLEMS WITH MYSELF.

I MEAN, BEING WITH ANOTHER PERSON, MARCOS OR ANYBODY ELSE... THEY AREN'T GOING TO BELIEVE IN ME IF I DON'T BELIEVE IN MYSELF. I KNOW IT SOUNDS LIKE A SELF-HELP BOOK, BUT I'VE BEEN GIVING IT A LOT OF THOUGHT.

I GET IT, MORE OR LESS, BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS YOU HAVE WITH YOURSELF.

THERE ARE THINGS I DON'T LIKE, BUT CHANGING THEM TAKES TIME.

THINGS LIKE WHAT, FOR EXAMPLE?

OVERTHINKING. I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT STUFF.

THAT'S TRUE.

ESPECIALLY ABOUT WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENED AND HAS NO SOLUTION. THAT STOPS ME FROM STARTING BACK AT ZERO AND ENJOYING WHAT LIES AHEAD.

OKAY, POINT NUMBER ONE: STOP THINKING TOO MUCH. WHAT ELSE?

YES, POINT NUMBER TWO: IT'S NOT MY FAULT.

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?

THAT IF, LET'S SAY, MARCOS IGNORES ME, IT'S NOT BECAUSE I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH. IT'S BECAUSE HE'S AN ASSHOLE.

AN ABSOLUTE ASSHOLE.

HIS LOSS.

WAIT A MINUTE, I'M FINISHING WRITING THE LAST ONE.

...DIDN'T FAIL.

ANYTHING ELSE? THERE ARE TEN IN TOTAL. WE NAILED IT.

1. STOP THINKING TOO MUCH.
2. IT'S NOT MY FAULT.
3. IT ALL ENDS WHEN YOU DIE. MAKE THE MOST OF IT.
4. DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT YOU WOULD REGRET AFTER WAKING UP.
5. DON'T REGRET ANYTHING YOU HAVE DONE AFTER WAKING UP.
6. COUNT ON YOUR FRIENDS.
7. MEET PEOPLE.
8. LAUGH ALL YOU CAN. CRY ALL YOU WANT.
9. METROSEXUAL MEN DO NOT EXIST. IF YOU FIND SOMEONE LIKE THAT, HE IS GAY.
10. BE HAPPY WHEN YOU GET YOUR PERIOD. THAT MEANS THAT THE CONDOM DIDN'T FAIL.

① NO COMERSE EL
② LA CULPA NO ES M
③ AL MORIR SE ACABA
④ NO HAGAS NADA DE ARREPIENTAS AL
⑤ AL DESPERTAR N NADA DE LO QUE
⑥ CUENTA CON LOS
⑦ CONOCE A GENTE.
⑧ RIE TODO LO QUE PUEDAS. LLORA TODO LO QUE QUIERAS.
⑨ EL HOMBRE METROSEXUAL NO EXISTE. SI ENCUENTRAS ALGO PARECIDO, ES GAY.
⑩ ALÉGRATE DE TENER LA REGLA. ESO ES QUE EL CONDÓN NO TE FALLÓ.

WHO DO YOU THINK WOULD BE WORTHY OF HANDLING THESE COMMANDMENTS?

HMMM, GOOD QUESTION.

LET'S SEE, WHAT ABOUT BECKHAM?

NO WAY, I CAN'T STAND FOOTBALLERS.

OK, ANOTHER ONE THEN...

BRAD PITT?

OH, YES, HAVE YOU SEEN THOSE LIPS?

BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU READ THE BIBLE?

IS THAT A TRICK QUESTION?

SERIOUSLY, IT'S A FASCINATING BOOK. IT'S INCREDIBLE THAT IT IS STILL AROUND WHEN IT WAS WRITTEN MILLENNIA AGO.

ONE OF THE COMMANDMENTS SAYS SOMETHING LIKE YOU CAN'T DESIRE THE WOMAN OF YOUR FELLOW MAN, NOR HIS HOUSE, NOR HIS DONKEY. SO I TELL MYSELF THAT'S COOL: THEY DON'T EXPLICITLY FORBID US FROM SCREWING OUR NEIGHBOR'S HUSBAND.

IT SEEMS THAT WE'RE IN SOME KIND OF RELIGIOUS LEGAL VACUUM.

WELL, THAT'S NORMAL. BACK THEN WOMEN WERE ON THE SIDELINES. WE WERE JUST BETTER OFF TO STAY A VIRGIN UNTIL MARRIAGE AND THEN GIVE BIRTH TO ONE KID AFTER ANOTHER.

I READ THAT ACCORDING TO THE LAWS, IF YOU GOT MARRIED AND YOUR HUSBAND SAID YOU WEREN'T A VIRGIN, THEY HAD A TRIAL.

THEN THE FAMILY OF THE GIRL COULD INTRODUCE THE "PROOF" THAT SHE WAS A VIRGIN.

PROOF?

CAN YOU IMAGINE YOURSELF WIDE OPEN AT A TRIBUNAL?

THAT'S WHY SODOMY WAS SOMETHING NORMAL.

AND WEIRDER THINGS DID HAPPEN, LIKE A WOMAN GIVING BIRTH TO A CHILD EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS A VIRGIN.

THAT'S WHAT SHE MADE JOSEPH BELIEVE. JOSEPH THE CUCKOLD.

TECHNICALLY SPEAKING, BETWEEN JOSEPH AND MARY, THE ONE THAT WAS MORE LIKELY A VIRGIN IS JOSEPH.

JOSEPH THE VIRGIN.

HA, HA, HA.

HOW SHOCKING!

IT'S THE PARENTS' FAULT.

THE FIRST TIME, AND I GUESS THE LAST TIME, I TRULY FELT IN LOVE, IT WAS WITH A MUCH OLDER GUY.

I REALLY LOVED HIM, BUT HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET ENGAGED, DO YOU KNOW WHY?

NO, I DON'T. TELL ME.

IT SEEMS THAT HIS FORMER GIRLFRIENDS, ALL OF THEM, DUMPED HIM FOR SOMEONE ELSE.

SO HE TOLD ME THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE WITH SOMEONE THAT HAD ONLY BEEN WITH HIM, BECAUSE SOONER OR LATER I WOULD BE CURIOUS ABOUT OTHER MEN AND I WOULD LEAVE HIM.

BESIDES, HOW WOULD I KNOW THAT HE WAS THE RIGHT GUY FOR ME IF I HADN'T BEEN WITH ANY OTHERS?

HOW DID I DECIDE HE WAS THE ONE IF I DIDN'T HAVE ANY OTHER FRAME OF REFERENCE?

ALL IN ALL, HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE WITH ME BECAUSE I HADN'T BEEN WITH OTHER MEN. CURIOUS, ISN'T IT?

BULLSHIT.

WANT TO KNOW THE BEST PART?

THAT NOW YOU REALIZE HE WAS THE GOOD ONE?

OF COURSE NOT, HE WAS AN ASSHOLE AND I WAS NAIVE. I'M GLAD HE TOLD ME THAT. I GOT RID OF MY FEAR OF FLIRTING WITH ANYONE I PLEASE. YOU SHOULD TRY IT.

I'M NOT LIKE THAT.

SURE, THAT'S WHAT I USED TO SAY.

BUT... I DON'T KNOW, I'M TIRED OF ALL THIS. I MISS BEING WITH SOMEONE AND KNOWING HE'LL BE THERE.

IT'S A MATTER OF TIME. SOMEONE TOLD ME THAT IN THE END, ALL THE PIECES WILL FALL INTO PLACE.

NONSENSE, IN THE END, WE ALL DIE.

WHAT HAPPENED AT THE BIOPARTY?

I'VE BEEN THINKING IT OVER QUITE A BIT. I WAS JEALOUS OF YOU. AND, BESIDES, I'M A SELFISH PERSON.

XESC DIDN'T PAY ME ANY ATTENTION AT ALL. SO I WAS WANDERING AROUND WHEN I SAW YOU BOTH.

YOU WENT TO THE RESTROOM.

LUIS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ALONE?

WELL, YOU SEE, LAURA LEFT ME WAITING.

WE TALKED JUST FOR TWO MINUTES.

DID YOU KNOW YOU'RE VERY TALL?

COME HERE.

THAT'S ALL? JUST LIKE THAT?

IT'S THAT SIMPLE, REALLY.

SUCH A BITCH.

BITCH.

BITCH.

BITCH.

MY PLACE IS EMPTY TONIGHT.

WHERE IS LAURA?

WHAT?

YOU SEE, HE GOT SCARED OF ME, OR MAYBE HE LIKED YOU. I DON'T KNOW. WHEN WE WENT LOOKING FOR YOU, YOU HAD GONE. XESC TOLD US LATER. IF IT'S ANY RELIEF, NOTHING ELSE HAPPENED.

I DON'T KNOW IF I DO IT AS A SPORT OR AS AN ADDICTION OR TO REAFFIRM MYSELF. IT'S THE ONLY THING I'M GOOD AT.

AND WELL...

SORRY.

MAYBE I AM A BITCH.

"LOOK, LAURA, TAKE LUIS'S NUMBER, WHY DON'T YOU CALL HIM AND SOLVE ALL OF THIS? I WOULD FEEL SO MUCH BETTER."

"IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU CONNECT, DON'T LET IT COOL DOWN."

I'M GOING TO SEEM DESPERATE IF I CALL.

Luis

LAURIE, MOM SAYS IT'S TIME FOR DINNER.

DOES MOM KNOW THAT YOU'RE EATING CHIPS BEFORE DINNER?

DO YOU WANT SOME?

HAHAHA YOU ARE A JOKER.

A LITTLE JOKER.

SO CUTE AS KIDS AND SO STUPID WHEN YOU GROW UP.

I AM NOT A KID.

OF COURSE NOT.

WHEN YOU GROW UP, BEHAVE YOURSELF AND DON'T MAKE GIRLS CRY, UNDERSTAND?

OKAY, BUT DON'T TELL MOM ABOUT THE CHIPS.

GIVE ME A HUG, RUGRAT.

WELL.

C'MON, TIME TO EAT.

LAURIE.

WHAT?

I'M NOT HUNGRY.

MOM'S GONNA KILL YOU.

LAME, DUDE. WHAT HAPPENED AT THE STOP IN THE SECOND PART?

SORRY, I'M OUT OF IT.

YAMAHA

IS IT ABOUT THE BABE FROM THIS WEEKEND?

WHAT BABE? LUIS GOT LUCKY?

OH, YEAH, HE DID NOTHING AT ALL AND SHE WAS REALLY HANGING ON HIM, EH?

FUCK, LUIS, TELL ME WHAT COLOGNE YOU USE, BUDDY.

WHAT FOR? YOUR NATURAL SCENT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO COVER.

SCENT? STENCH I'D SAY.

THEY'RE PHEROMONES, DUDES. THIS SCENT MAKES BABES CRAZY.

SO WHAT, LUIS, DID YOU GIVE HER WHAT SHE DESERVED?

NO WAY, THE BABE TOLD HIM TO FUCK OFF WHEN SHE CAUGHT HIM MAKING OUT WITH HER FRIEND.

WHAT? TWO IN A ROW, DUDE, YOU ARE MY HERO. I WANT TO BE YOUR PADAWAN.

CUT THE CRAP.

I THINK YOU SHOULD FIX THINGS, MAN. I DID FEEL SOME CONNECTION THERE, DUDE.

PASS. SHE MUST THINK I'M A PIG, IF I CALL HER, IT WILL SEEM LIKE I'M DESPERATE.

A DESPERATE PIG.

EY, CAN'T YOU GIVE ME THE NUMBER OF THE OTHER CHICK?

THE OTHER ONE IS ELENA. THE ONE YOU HOOKED UP WITH TWO YEARS AGO ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.

FUCK, SERIOUSLY? YOU HAD SOMETHING WITH HER, RIGHT?

SO THE THREE OF US HAVE NAILED THE SAME CHICK?

SEEMS LIKE IT.

THIS BABE IS LIKE A PUBLIC RESTROOM.

THEN SHE WAS GIVING ME THE RUNAROUND.

I CAN'T COME TODAY, I HAVE TO MEET MY FRIENDS, BLAH, BLAH, BLAH.

AND IT'S BEEN A MONTH AND A HALF SO FAR. IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO SAY "DUDE, DON'T INSIST, I'M NOT INTERESTED"?

SHE MUST BE ONE OF THOSE GIRLS WHO LIKE MEN FLUTTERING AROUND HER.

WELL, I'M TIRED OF IT, YOU KNOW?

FUCK HER.

FUCK HER.

THE OTHER DAY, WE PRACTICALLY COLLIDED IN THE STREET AND SHE PRETENDED SHE DIDN'T SEE ME SO SHE WOULDN'T HAVE TO GREET ME.

WELL THEN, FORGET ABOUT HER AND LET SOMEONE DUMBER PUT UP WITH HER.

FUCK HER.

FUCK HER.

FUCK HIM.

SOME DAYS I WAKE UP WANTING TO BE ANOTHER PERSON, OR CHANGE MY PERSPECTIVE RADICALLY. WHICH IS STUPIDITY, BECAUSE I WILL CONTINUE BEING THE SAME.

SO I NEVER DO ANYTHING.

OR AT LEAST I HAVE NEVER DONE ANY-THING BEFORE.

I LET THE HAIRDRESSER DO ANYTHING SHE WANTS, NO RESTRICTIONS.

MY NEW LIFE AS A BLONDIE.

A MYSTERIOUS BLONDE WITH ENORMOUS FASHIONABLE SUNGLASSES FROM THE FLEA MARKET.

HMMM.

PIERCING & TATTOO

IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME TO GET A TATTOO BEFORE.

LAURA

GIRLS THAT DO

IV.TIME FLIES

HI, LAURA, WHEN ARE YOU FINISHED WITH YOUR EXAMS?

YES.

SO THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY YOU WILL BE FREE. PERFECT, BECAUSE WE ARE GOING TO FORMENTERA.

DO YOU KNOW SUSAN?

IT'S HER, A FRIEND OF HERS, US, MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE, DON'T KNOW, IT'S UP IN THE AIR.

C'MON, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT, LAURA?

THAT'S THE SPIRIT. I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT IT'S FULL OF HOT ITALIAN GUYS. SO WHAT WE HAVE TO DO NOW IS GO TO THE BEACH THIS WEEKEND TO GET A TAN. MY BUTT IS WHITE.

I'LL CALL YOU. DON'T STUDY SO MUCH.

Horari
de les 8 a les 21:45 h
de l'1 de juliol al 31 d'agost de les 8 a les 14 h
de l'1 al 15 de setembre de les 8 a les 20:45 h
Nadal i Pasqua de les 8 a les 14:00 h
Horari de préstec de les 8 a les 21 h

THE SURCHARGE WILL BE 20% (EXCLUDING PENALTIES) PLUS INTEREST FOR THE DELAY PERIOD SINCE THE DAY FOLLOWING THE END OF THE TWELVE MONTHS ...

AFTER THE DEADLINE SET FOR THE PRESENTATION (VOLUNTARY TERM).

LET'S SEE... VOLUNTARY TERM.

IF TAXPAYERS DO NOT MAKE THE DEPOSIT OR FILE THE REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT, FRACTIONATION, OR COMPENSATION WHEN FILING THE UNTIMELY SELF-PAYMENT...

ADMINISTRATIVE LIQUIDATION PROCEEDS BY DEFAULT SURCHARGES AND INTEREST ARISING FROM THE LATE FILING NOT PREVENTING THE REQUIREMENT OF SURCHARGES AND INTERESTS OF THE EXECUTIVE PERIOD CORRESPONDING TO THE AMOUNT OF THE SETTLEMENT. THE REVERSE SURCHARGES ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE URGENCY SURCHARGE...

URGENCY SURCHARGE...

I AM KNACKERED.

I NEED A COFFEE.

AND A MIRACLE.

WAS IT THAT THE URGENCY SURCHARGES ARE PAID FROM TWENTY MONTHS... TWENTY, OR WERE THEY THE SURCHARGES FOR A LATE PAYMENT? OH, NO, WAIT.

LAURA, WERE THEY TWENTY OR TEN?

IF THE EXAM IS ON THE 15TH, AT A RATE OF TWO UNITS A DAY... SHIT, I WON'T DO IT ON TIME.

WHAT'S UP? ARE WE FEELING VOYEUR TODAY?

FIRST BEACH DAY OF THE YEAR. NOW THE SUMMER IS STARTING FOR REAL, CAN'T YOU FEEL IT?

I FEEL THAT I'M GOING TO FAIL. IT'S NOT SUMMER FOR ME UNTIL I FINISH EXAMS.

YOU SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT SOMETHING TO STUDY.

I CAN'T FOCUS AND EVERYTHING GETS FULL OF SAND. SHALL WE TAKE THOSE SUNSHADES?

NO WAY, WE ARE GOING TO SUNBATHE, NOT LIE IN THE SHADE.

THIS PLACE IS PERFECT.

WHAT MAKES IT PERFECT?

WE CAN SEE THOSE STRONG GUYS OVER THERE PLAYING VOLLEYBALL.

YES, THEY HAVE ALSO SEEN US... OR YOU.

PERFECT, I BOUGHT TWO NEW THONGS YESTERDAY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

WHAT?

IT'S SUMMER AGAIN.

THAT'S HOW IT WORKS.

I WAS THINKING ABOUT MARCOS.

LET'S TELL SOME OLD STORIES.

FUCK YOU.

I WAS JOKING, SWEETIE. C'MON, TELL ME, IT'S SUMMER AGAIN...

IT'S NOTHING.

C'MON, I'M LISTENING.

AND NOTHING, THAT'S THE THING. NOTHING HAS HAPPENED.

FUCK, YOU FINALLY HAVE YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE AND YOU HAVE A DEGREE.

I HAVEN'T FINISHED YET.

WELL, ALMOST THERE. DIDN'T YOU WIN AN ART COMPETITION FOR YOUNGSTERS?

JUST A FINALIST.

ALMOST THERE.

MY BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A SIX MONTH CONTRACT.

AND A FAT BOSS THAT IS TOUCHING ME ALL THE TIME BY "ACCIDENT."

EY, LOOK AT THAT GUY, HE'S COMING OVER HERE.

HI, DO YOU HAVE A CIGARETTE?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW.

YOU DON'T KNOW? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

DO YOU LIKE CELTAS?

DON'T TELL ME YOU SMOKE CELTAS?

YEP.

I'D SWEAR THAT THE ONE IN YOUR HAND ISN'T ONE.

YOU GOT ME. I ALWAYS SAY NO, BUT I LIKE YOU.

WELL, THANKS. EY, IF YOU WANT A BEER, I'M WITH MY FRIENDS...

C'MON, I'LL CARRY YOU.

WHAT? NO.

LEAVE ME.

I SAID LEAVE ME.

WHAT ARE SAYING, BABE? IT'S COOL.

FUCK OFF AND LEAVE ME ALONE.

EY, LOOK WHAT I GOT.

THAT'S MINE. GIVE IT BACK.

YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH IT.

GIVE IT BACK OR YOU'LL BE SORRY, HA, HA.

EY YOU, WATCH THAT HAND.

SO LOOK WHAT I GOT, HE, HE...

WE GET ALONG WELL TOGETHER, DON'T WE?

YES.

AND YET WE DON'T HAVE MUCH IN COMMON, ALMOST NOTHING.

NOT MUCH.

MAYBE THAT'S WHY WE GET ALONG WELL TOGETHER. BECAUSE YOU AREN'T LIKE ME, AND I'M NOT LIKE YOU.

I KNOW... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHEN I'M WITH YOU, I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE I'M IN THE BACKGROUND.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

YOU ARE THE COOL BABE, THE ONE WITH INITIATIVE. I AM YOUR SIDEKICK.

WELL, THAT'S NORMAL, THAT THERE'S A SHYER ONE.

WHY DOES EVERYBODY PAY YOU MORE ATTENTION?

I DON'T KNOW, BECAUSE I TALK FIRST?

YOU ARE THE MAIN ARTIST.

FUCK YOU, I DON'T KNOW WHY I PUT UP WITH YOU.

I DO.

WHAT HAPPENED TO LUIS?

I DON'T KNOW.

THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM, HE WAS MAKING OUT WITH SOMEONE.

AM I GOING TO LIVE WITH THAT FOREVER?

NO, JUST WHENEVER YOU MENTION HIM.

DID YOU EVER CALL HIM?

NO. CAN YOU LEND ME THE TOWEL?

WHAT FOR?

TO CHANGE MY BIKINI.

BUT THERE ISN'T ANYBODY.

I KNOW, WOULD YOU LEND IT TO ME?

BUT LAURA... THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO COVER YOURSELF...

ARE YOU ASHAMED OF ME WATCHING YOU?

I DON'T LIKE GETTING NAKED IN PUBLIC.

IN PUBLIC? IT'S ME. I AM FREAKING OUT.

IT'S A MANIA, DOES IT BOTHER YOU?

YOU AND YOUR MANIAS.

"THANKS."

HAVE ANY BOYS EVER SEEN YOU NAKED?

...

ARE YOU ASKING ME IF I'M A VIRGIN?

YOU'VE NEVER TOLD ME.

OKAY, YES I AM.

I HAVE NEVER SLEPT WITH ANYONE.

SERIOUSLY? AT 22?

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO PRIM. IT'S ALL RELATED.

I AM NOT PRIM.

NO, OF COURSE NOT...

WE'LL GO TO NUDIST BEACHES IN FORMENTERA.

THEN YOU WILL GO ALONE.

I WILL MAKE YOU. IT'LL BE LIKE SHOCK THERAPY.

WE WILL SEE. DO YOU NEED THE TOW--


ISCOMAR
ferrys
TARJETA DE EMBARQUE
PASAJERO
VIP
FECHA
TRAYECTO
Reservas: 902 11
Sólo un trayecto One way
Keep this card throughout your voyage



WE'RE LATE FOR A CHANGE.

Port de Palma de Mallorca
Estació Marítima núm 2

NO, WE'LL GET ON THE BOAT WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS.

I SEE MYSELF SWIMMING TO FORMENTERA.

LAURA, DON'T STRESS ME OUT. WE'RE ON VACATION.

LOOK, THERE THEY ARE.

HEY.

STOP THERE.

WHO ARE THOSE TWO?

EH...

WHERE IS SUSAN?

WELL, I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU BEFORE. WE'RE GOING WITH THEM. JUST THE FOUR OF US.

NO WAY, I'M NOT COMING. I WON'T FORGIVE THIS ONE.

IT'S ABOUT TIME. WE HAVE TO EMBARK RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S IT, NOW SOME STRESS.

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU. LAURA, THIS IS JOSE.

DO YOU REMEMBER? THE ONE WE CALLED PATRICK. I TOLD YOU ABOUT HIM...

NOT NOW. I HAVE A TERRIBLE MEMORY.

EY, IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

I GUESS YOU DO REMEMBER LUIS, DON'T YOU?

HI.

ARE YOU ALSO GOING?

THAT'S IF WE CATCH THE FERRY.
SHALL WE GO IN?
SO, WHAT?
NO WAY I'M GOING. THIS IS A COUPLES TRIP.
SO WHAT?
IT'S GONNA BE FUN. WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?
THAT YOU MAY LIKE LUIS?
YOU MAY NOT?
THAT THEY SEE YOU IN A BIKINI?
WITHOUT A BIKINI?
THAT THE BOAT SINKS?
YOU CAN SWIM, CAN'T YOU?
YOU TRICKED ME.
GOOD GOSH...
YOU'LL THANK ME, YOU'LL SEE.
ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE SAYING "I WAS SO AFRAID OF THE BAD THINGS THAT I MISSED THE GOOD ONES"?
I KEPT SOMETHING FOR YOU.
READ.
OUR COMMAND-MENTS.
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU HAD SEEN THE LIGHT AND THAT YOU HAD BECOME A NEW PERSON WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM THAT YOU COULDN'T SOLVE AND ALL THAT MYSTICAL JAZZ.
"IF I STOP OVERTHINKING, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT..."
AND WITH A NEW HAIRCUT SAYING "I AM THE NEW LAURA." WHAT HAPPENED WITH ALL THAT?
BUT PEOPLE CAN'T CHANGE SO FAST...
IF THEY EVEN CHANGE.
WELL, I'M GOING IN, DO WHAT YOU WANT.
KEEP THE PAPER FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH.

TODO. APROVECH...
LO QUE TE
...PER...
MAKE THE MOST OF IT.
...CONOCE A ...CENTE
RIE TODO LO QUE
MEET PEOPLE.
LAUGH ALL YOU...
OS AMIGOS
...FRIENDS
LAURA, WHAT'S THAT SHE SAYS? YOU AREN'T COMING?
UH, WELL, I DON'T KNOW...
THAT SEEMS TO BE THE LOOKS OF IT, IF YOU AREN'T IN, NEITHER AM I.
ARE YOU GOING FOR ME?
I PASS ON BEING THE BODYGUARD FOR THOSE TWO.
OH, OF COURSE.
IT'S NORMAL.
YES.
I LIKE THAT HAIRCUT.
THANKS, I HAVE TO PUT A LOT OF HAIRSPRAY ON THE TIPS.
YOU KNOW, I'D LIKE THE FOUR OF US TO GO.
DO YOU? BUT IT'S, I DON'T KNOW, A WEIRD SITUATION...
IT'S WEIRD FOR ME TOO, BUT I'M HERE.
BESIDES, I KEPT AN UNEXPECTED KISS TO GIVE TO YOU, DO YOU REMEMBER?
THEN YOU'LL CERTAINLY FAIL. I'M GONNA WATCH YOU THE WHOLE TIME.
IT ALSO COUNTS IF YOU GIVE IT TO ME.
I'LL PRETEND TO BE SURPRISED.
THE LAST TIME I GAVE ONE....
MY HEART STILL SUFFERS THE CONSEQUENCES.
I WILL TELL YOU A SECRET.
THE HEART...
IS JUST AN ORGAN THAT PUMPS BLOOD.

V.END

VI.BEGINNING



FORMENTERA.

HA, HA...EH. LUIS, HONEY, DID YOU KNOW THE LAST ONE WHO DID THAT RECEIVED A SMACK?

REALLY, LAURA? WAS THAT BEFORE OR AFTER THE KISS?

LAURA, IF THE BOYS WANT TO PLAY, LET'S PLAY.

GIVE ME THAT, I'LL LEAVE THEM TO DRY.

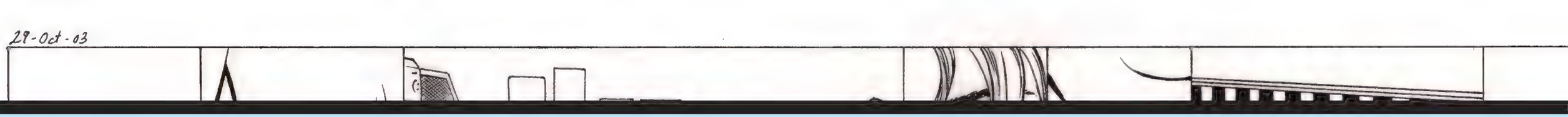
YOU GUYS CAN START TO RUN. WE'LL STRIP YOUR TRUNKS OFF.

IT SEEMS LIKE A LIFETIME.


Inbox
New message
from:
MARCOS
Opcs.
Open
Back


Inbox
Deleted

Behind the scenes of
LAURA



THE STORY
behind the story

18 YEARS AGO I HAD THE NICE IDEA OF WRITING THE DATE I STARTED LAURA IN THE UPPER-LEFT CORNER OF THE VERY FIRST PAGE. IT'S NOT PRINTED IN THE BOOK, ONLY WRITTEN AS A "META-DATA" ON THE ORIGINAL ART.

IN 2003 I WASN'T A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST AND USED TO THINK I WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO MAKE A LIVING FROM THIS. AT THAT TIME I WAS HAPPY ENOUGH TO HAVE A REGULAR COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL NEWSPAPER DIARIO DE MALLORCA, WHICH CONSISTED OF A WEEKLY PAGE OF COMIC THAT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE SUNDAY EDITION. I GOT THAT ASSIGNMENT SOME YEARS BEFORE STARTING LAURA. AT THE BEGGINING I DID ONE-PAGE SELF-CONTAINING STORIES, BUT SOON AFTER, MAYBE SEVEN OR EIGHT WEEKS LATER, I STARTED WORKING ON LONGER "TO BE CONTINUED" STORIES. ONE PAGE EVERY WEEK.

THE NEWSPAPER DIRECTOR GAVE ME SOME LOOSE GUIDELINES ABOUT WHAT HE WANTED FOR THE PAGE. TO ATTRACT YOUNG READERS TO THE NEWSPAPER MY MAIN GUIDELINE WAS TO FEATURE YOUNG FEMALE CHARACTERS. ANOTHER ARTIST, JAUME BALAGUER, WAS DOING COMICS WITH MALE CHARACTERS. I'M NOT SURE AT ALL WHY I WAS ASKED TO DRAW GIRLS INSTEAD OF BOYS. MAYBE JAUME'S STUFF WAS A BIT MORE CARTOONY THAN MINE AND HE USED TO FOCUS ON GAGS, WHILE MY STYLE WAS A BIT MORE REALISTIC. DOES THAT MEAN IT WAS MORE SUITABLE FOR FEMALE READERS?

AN ADDITIONAL SELF-IMPOSED GUIDELINE FOR MY COMICS WAS TO SET THE STORIES IN MY HOMETOWN AND MY ISLAND. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL WHY THE NEWSPAPER WAS HIRING ME IF BUYING LICENSES OF FAMOUS STRIPS WOULD PROBABLY BE CHEAPER AND MORE POPULAR, SO I DECIDED I HAD TO OFFER SOMETHING ONLY A LOCAL ARTIST COULD OFFER. SO I STARTED MY CUSTOM OF DRAWING PALMA, MY CITY, IN MY COMICS.

THE FIRST LONG STORY I SERIALIZED IN THE NEWSPAPER WAS CALLED SOFIA. I STARTED ANOTHER CUSTOM OF MINE: NAMING THE BOOK AFTER THE STARRING GIRL. AFTER SOFIA CAME ANA AND VICTORIA. THESE THREE STORIES WERE LATER COLLECTED IN FLOPPIES AND RELEASED BY A SPANISH PUBLISHER IN A MINISERIES. FOR THE FOURTH STORY I WANTED TO MAKE AN ALBUM, AN OVERSIZED HARDCOVER BOOK. THAT STORY WAS LAURA.

BY THAT TIME I WAS WORKING ON MY WEEKLY PAGE WHILE I WAS STUDYING A DEGREE IN ECONOMICS THAT I NEVER FINISHED. AT SOME POINT I THOUGHT THAT EVEN IF I COULDN'T MAKE A LIVING FROM COMICS, MAYBE I COULD BE A GRAPHIC DESIGNER. THAT WOULD BE MORE FULFILLING THAN SPENDING MY TIME IN A BANK. THOSE DAYS THE FUTURE WAS QUITE UNCLEAR.

AND THEN, SUMMER OF 2003 HAPPENED. UNTIL THAT TIME, I WAS DOING SLICE-OF-LIFE COMICS ABOUT GIRLS BUT I WASN'T PAYING MUCH ATTENTION TO THE MEANING OF THE STORY. I GUESS I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MORE ATTRACTED BY THE ARTIST-SIDE OF DOING COMICS. I ENJOYED WRITING MY OWN SCRIPTS, IN MY AMATEUR YEARS I NEVER ASKED ANYBODY TO WRITE A SCRIPT FOR ME, BUT WRITING THE SCRIPT WAS ONLY A NECESSARY STEP BEFORE I COULD DRAW ANY PANEL MORE THAN A TOOL TO EXPRESS MYSELF.

WITH LAURA THAT CHANGED. I USED MY DRAWING SKILLS TO TELL SOMETHING THAT WAS MEANINGFUL TO ME. SOMETHING THAT HAD HAPPENED TO ME. NOT EXACTLY THAT SAME THING, I WOULD CHANGE THE NAMES AND SITUATIONS SO I DIDN'T FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE IF A FRIEND OF MINE WAS READING THE NEWSPAPER. I'M NOT AS OPEN AS, LET'S SAY, ROBERT CRUMB OR JOE MATT. I CAN'T PUT MY RAW INNER THOUGHTS ON A PAPER AND LET THE WORLD KNOW ABOUT IT. PROBABLY THE WORLD WOULDN'T CARE AT ALL ANYWAY. I NOTICED THAT PUTTING A FEMALE CHARACTER WAS A GOOD RESOURCE TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM MYSELF.

SO THERE I WAS, STARTING A NEW COMIC FROM THE GUTS. THE FIRST PAGES OF LAURA ARE QUITE RAW, NOT QUITE OPTIMISTIC. BROKEN HEARTS, DEPRESSION AND PROBABLY NOT A GOOD WAY TO START A STORY. I HAD NO WRITTEN SCRIPT OF THE FULL STORY, SO EVERY WEEK I WAS IMPROVISING IT. I HAD SOME IDEAS ABOUT WERE TO GO, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW HOW THE STORY WOULD END. MY MOOD WAS EVOLVING THE SAME WAY AS THE CHARACTER'S. IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR, THE TIME THAT I NEEDED TO FINISH LAURA, LOTS OF THINGS CHANGED IN MY LIFE. AND THAT ALSO HAD ITS REFLECTION IN THE BOOK.





A slice of the
PROCESS

I ENJOY SEEING OTHER ARTISTS' PROCESSES, SO HERE IS MINE.

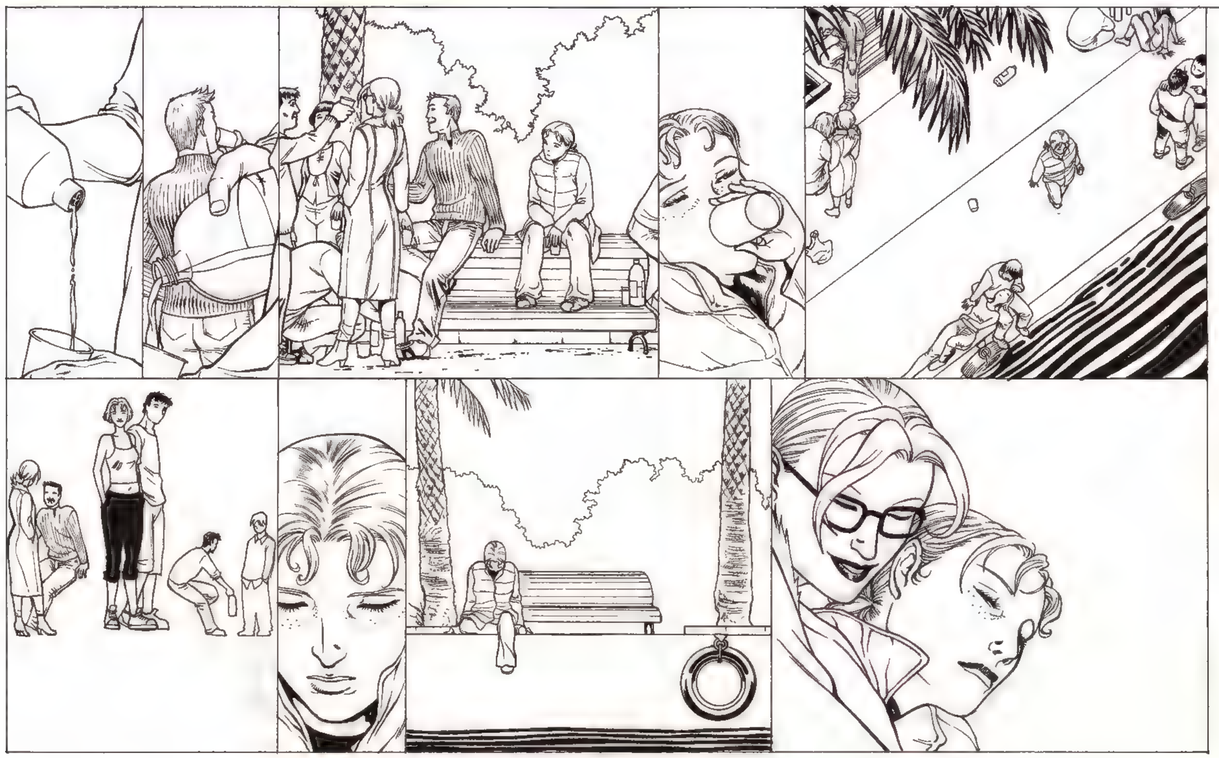
OVER THE YEARS I'VE CHANGED FEW THINGS IN MY WAY OF WORKING, 18 YEARS AGO I WAS DOING COMICS ALMOST THE SAME WAY AS I DO THEM TODAY.

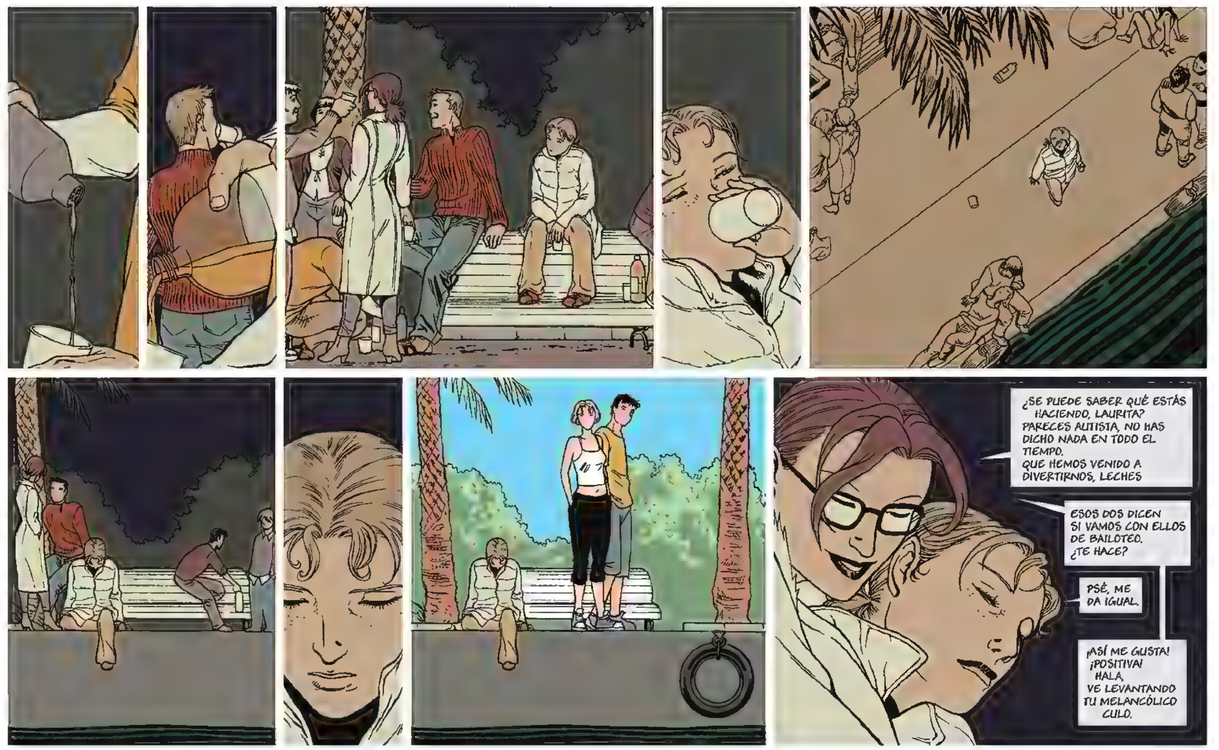
I START WITH A LITTLE LAYOUT ON A PIECE OF PAPER TO DISTRIBUTE THE PANELS. I DON'T KEEP MOST OF THEM. THEN I WORK THE PENCILS. OVER THE YEARS I'VE LEARNED TO KEEP THE PAGE LESS DIRTY THAN THE ONE AT THE RIGHT. I INK THOSE PENCILS ON THE SAME PAPER, THEN I ERASE THE PENCILS AND SCAN THE PAGE.

THE COLOR OF LAURA IS FULLY DIGITAL. AT THE BOTTOM RIGHT YOU CAN SEE THE FLAT COLORS, WHICH IS AN INTERMEDIATE STEP BEFORE ADDING LIGHTS AND SHADES. SOMETIMES I LOOK AT THIS AND I WONDER WHY THE HELL DID I DO SUCH A TIME-CONSUMING ULTRA-RENDERED COLORING IN THIS BOOK. I GUESS I WANTED TO PLAY WITH ALL THE TEXTURES AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EFFECTS I COULD ADD THANKS TO MY THEN BRAND NEW DIGITAL CAMERA. ALL THAT TEXTURED STUFF SEEMED NEW AND COOL IN 2003, BUT NOW I'M A BIT FED UP OF IT AND I'VE STARTED APPRECIATING FLAT COLORS AGAIN.

ACTUALLY, SOME OF THE EDITING THAT I'M DOING THESE DAYS FOR THIS EDITION OF LAURA CONSISTS OF REMOVING PHOTOGRAPHIC TEXTURES, WHICH IS NOT EASY BECAUSE I DON'T KEEP THE LAYERED FILES.







Helena

LAYOUT

¡Eh! ¡No!

¡Que me dejes!

¡Eh! Mira lo que tengo

¡Eh! Tira para acá

¿Cuándo has dicho, tía? Ya creía que no

¿Tendrás ya pillado

Ahora verás lo que es bueno

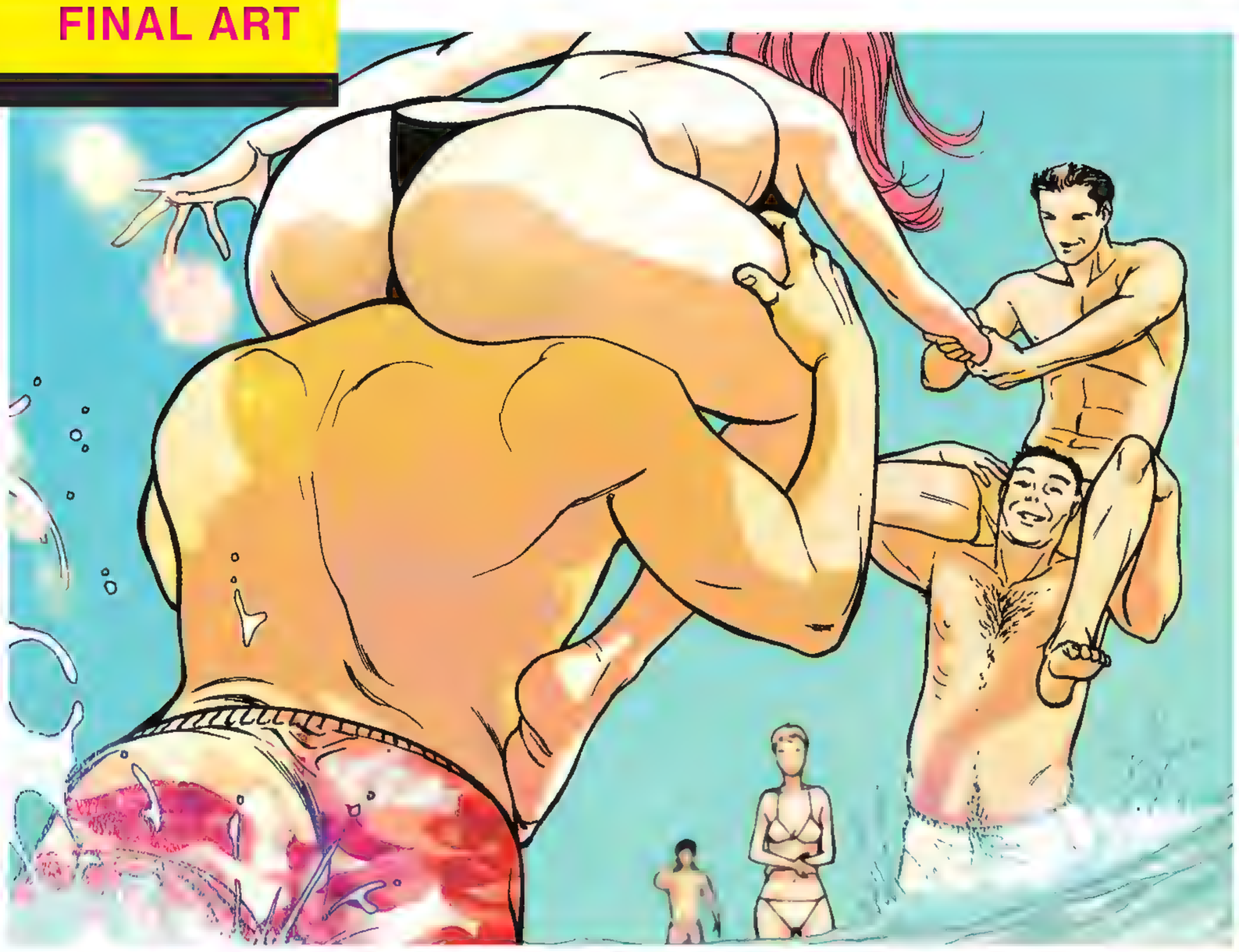
Pues mira lo que tengo yo

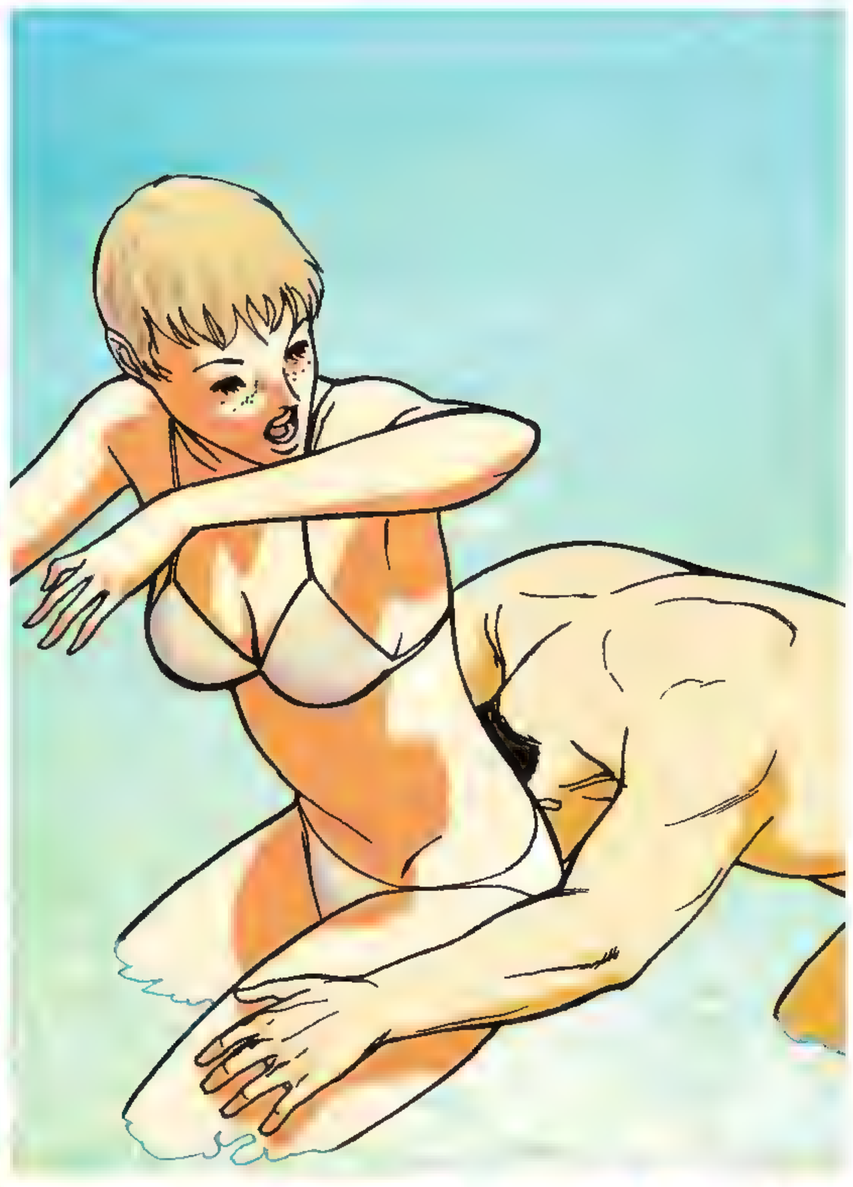
Cuando te pueda pegar!

PENCILS

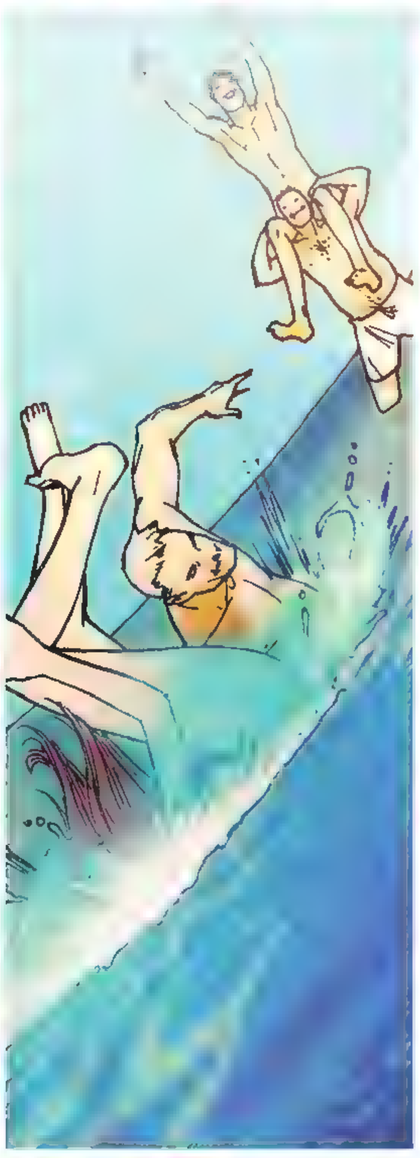
INKS

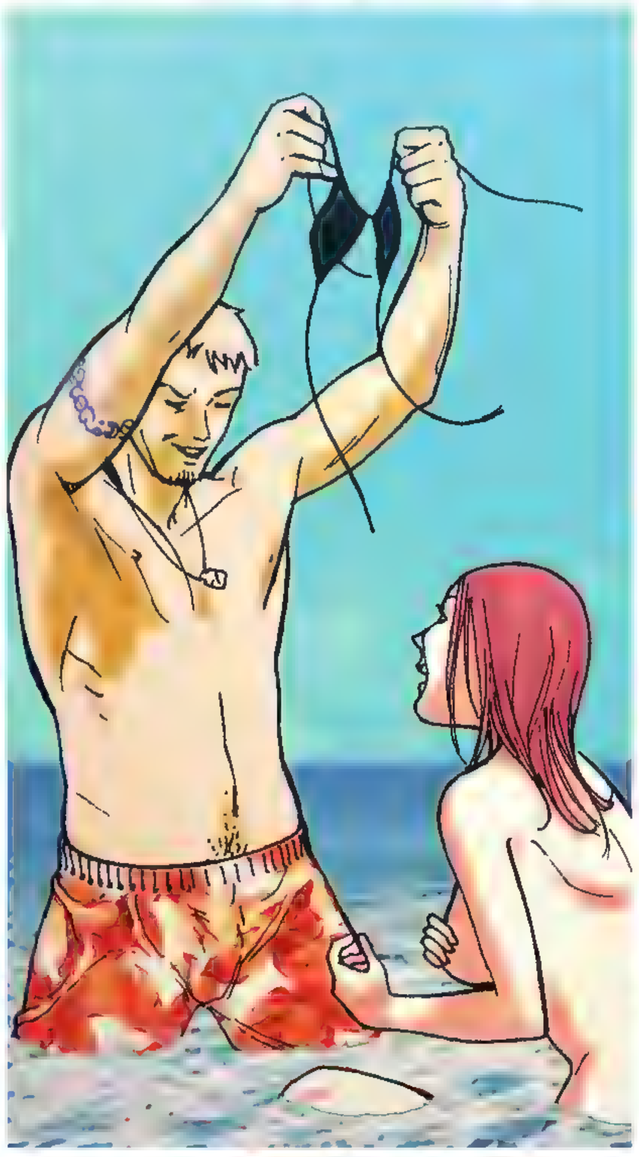
FINAL ART

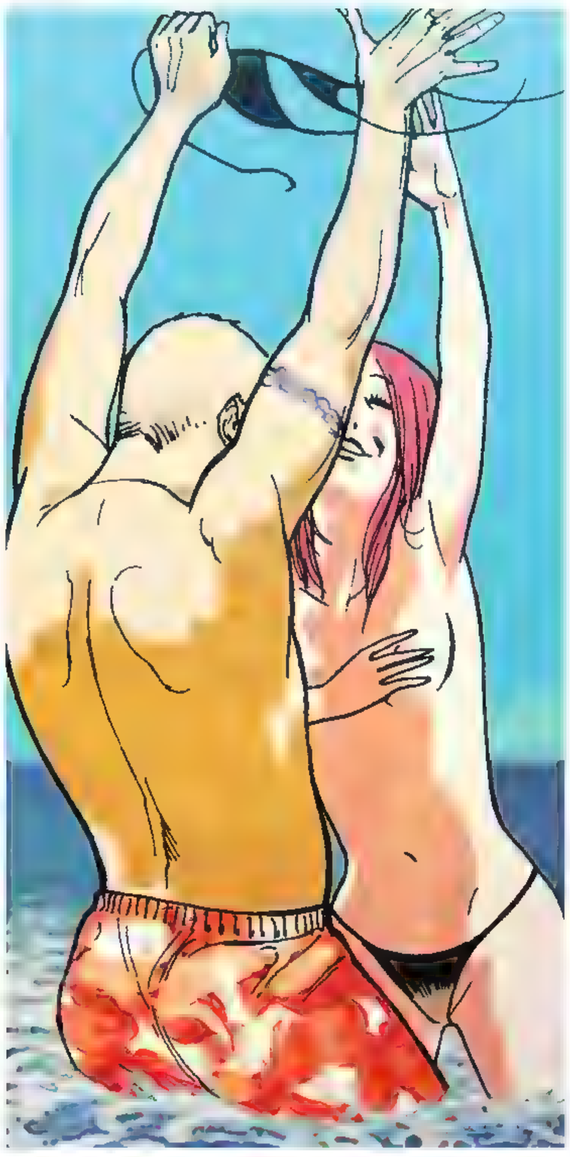


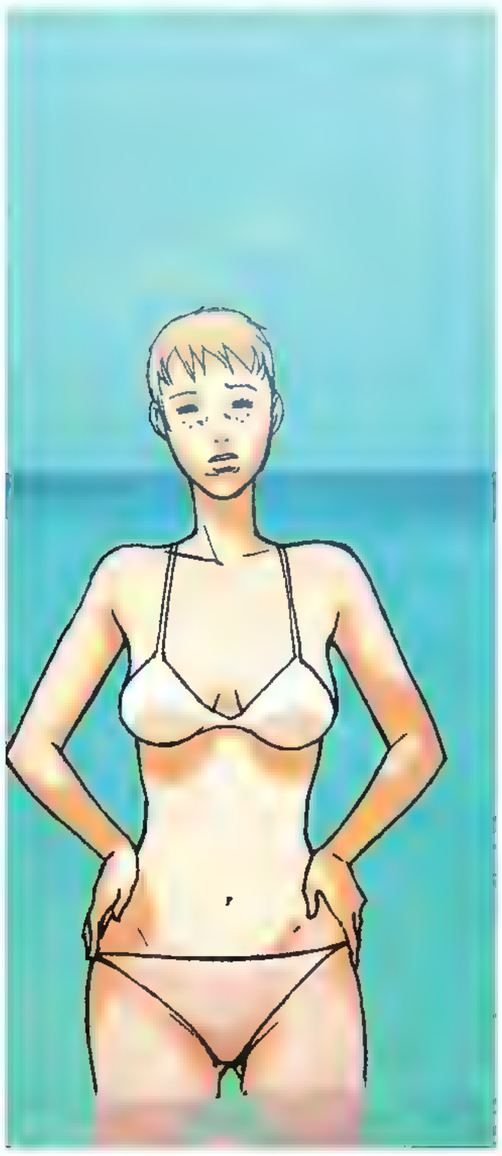


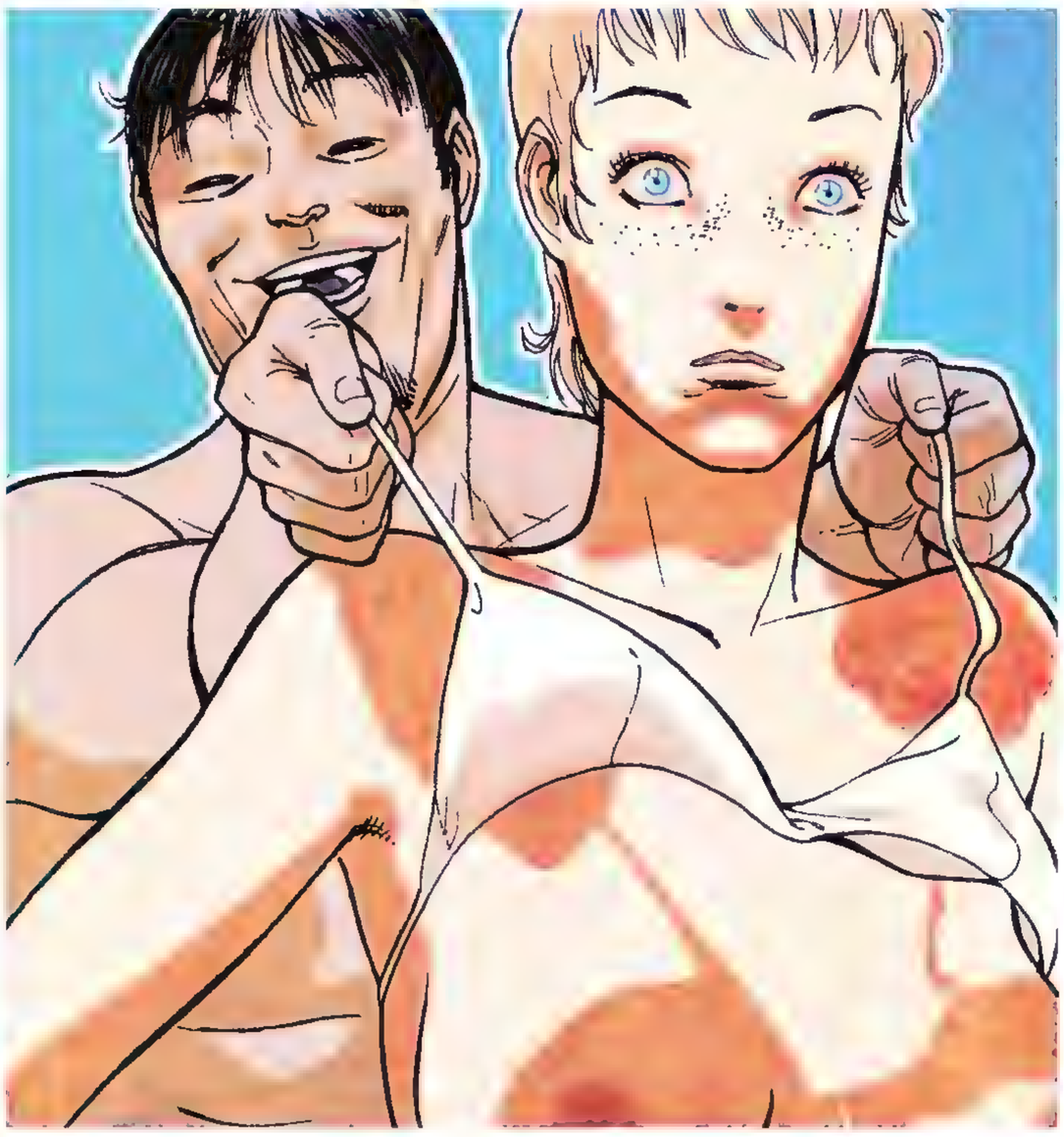




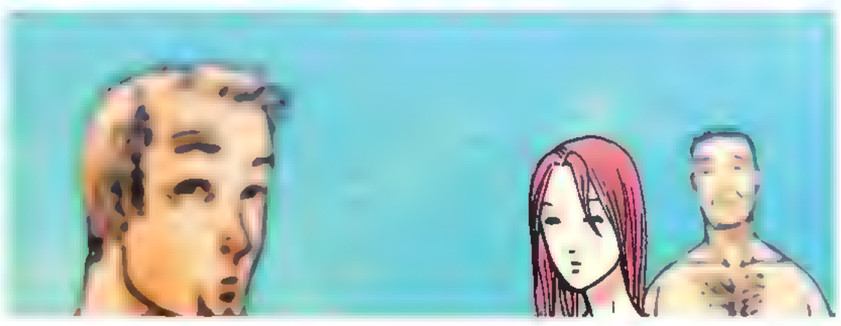










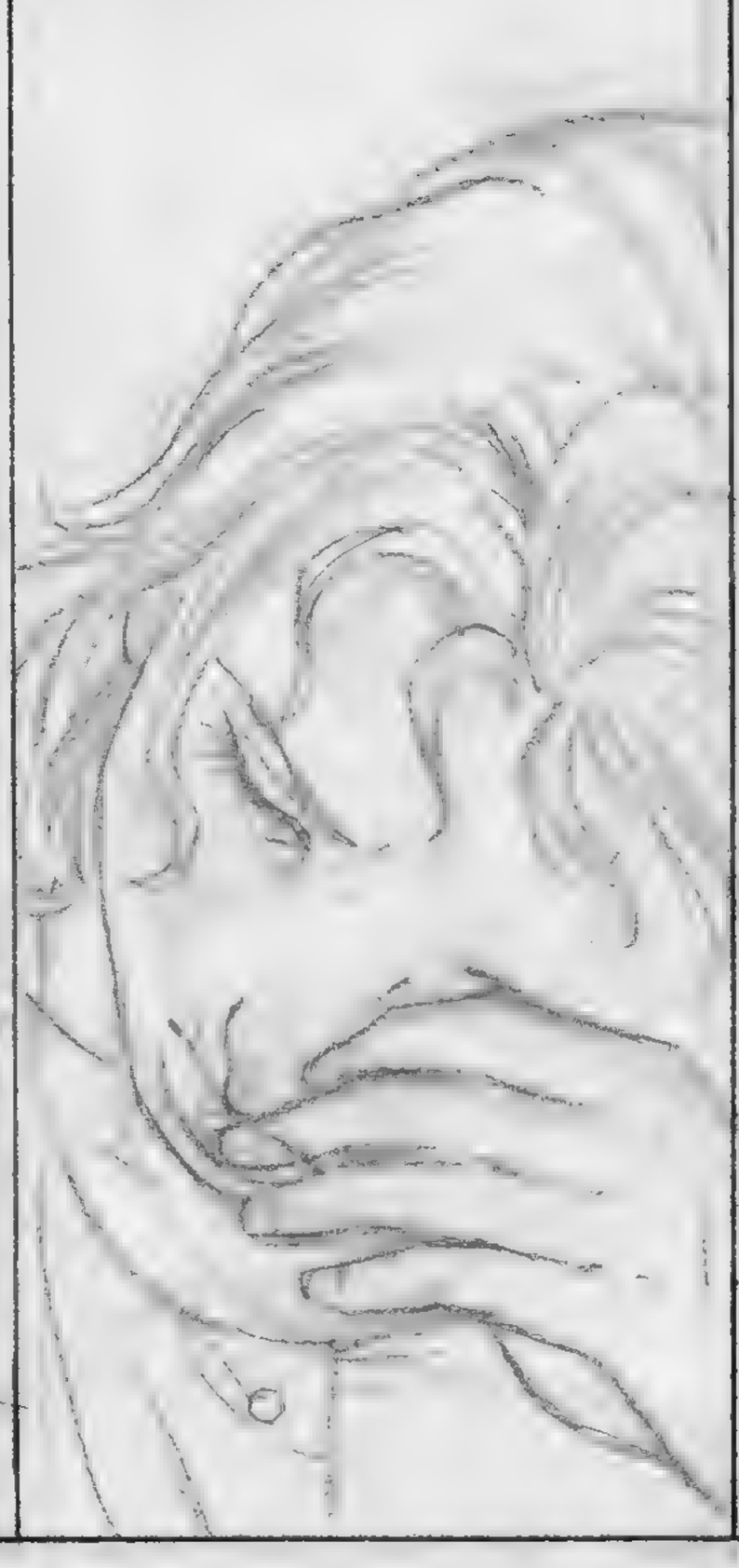


















IRENE

IN 2008
I PARTICIPATED IN THE ANTHOLOGY
EVERY ARTIST IS AN ISLAND.

THE TITLE PLAYED WITH THE LONELINESS THAT MANY ARTISTS FACE WHEN THEY FOCUS ON THEIR WORK, BOTH PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL.
DOING COMICS IS A ONE-MAN BUSINESS, BUT THE TITLE ALSO REFLECTS THE FACT THAT ALL ARTISTS IN THE BOOK WERE BORN OR LIVING ON THE ISLAND OF MAJORCA.

BY THAT TIME I HAD ALREADY RELEASED LAURA AND SOME PAGES IN PLAYBOY SPAIN, AND I WAS KNOWN AMONG MY ISLANDER COLLEAGUES FOR HAVING ONLY GIRLS AS THE LEADING CHARACTERS IN MY COMICS.

WITH IRENE, SOMEHOW I EXPLAIN WHY I USED TO DO THAT.

TODAY, I SEE MOST OF THE THINGS I SAID HERE ARE STILL VALID. IT'S BEEN A LITTLE SURPRISE THAT THE GUILLEM FROM 2008 IS ABLE TO GIVE SOME ADVICE TO TODAY'S GUILLEM.
THANKS, DUDE.

IRENE

LIES FROM AN ARTIST.

MY NAME IS IRENE. I USED TO SAY I DRAW COMICS BECAUSE I LOVE STORYTELLING, BUT THAT'S A LIE.

I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN DRAWING COMICS. IF I HAD A REVEALING TRUTH TO TELL THE WORLD, I'D DRAW IT. I WOULDN'T WRITE A BOOK.

I DON'T KNOW WHY. I CAN'T EXPLAIN. I GUESS IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH FETISHISM. IT'S THE SAME AS A READER, I'LL VALUE A STORY MUCH MORE IF IT'S A COMIC RATHER THAN A MOVIE.

THE PLACE WHERE I RELAX AND AM INSPIRED IS THE BATH.

STORYTELLING ISN'T WHAT MAKES ME WANT TO DRAW COMICS, BUT ONLY THE EXCUSE THAT ALLOWS ME TO DRAW THEM.

NOW I HOPE THIS STATEMENT WON'T DEPRECIATE MY PREVIOUS WORK.

RIGHT NOW I NEED AN IDEA THAT IS WORTH THE EFFORT OF DRAWING A SHORT STORY. DRAWING TAKES TIME, SO I'M HOPING I COME ACROSS SOMETHING GOOD SOON, BECAUSE, AS A GOOD FRIEND OF MINE SAYS...

DOING IT BAD IS WASTING TIME.

BROOOOMMM BRRR BRRR BRR...

WHAT? PORCO?

HELLO, IRENE-SAN.

MISTER MIYAZAKI. WHAT A SURPRISE. I'M A BIG FAN OF YOUR WORK.

I KNOW. THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE CHOSEN ME.

SORRY? CHOSEN FOR WHAT?

TO REVEAL YOU. JUMP IN.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

YOU LACK A LOT OF THE JAPANESE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE, THE SELFLESS DEVOTION TO WORK AND A DEEP SELF-KNOWLEDGE. AND A BIT OF MODESTY WOULD ALSO BE WELCOME.

BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR HEAD. YOU'RE TALLER THAN FIO.

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT I LACK ALL THOSE THINGS?

FROM THE FIRST PAGE.

BY THE WAY, WHEN DID YOU LEARN TO SPEAK MAJORCAN?

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, AT GRANDMA'S.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU SAID ALL THAT. I STRIP MY SOUL EACH TIME I BRING A CHARACTER TO LIFE. EVERY THING I HAVE SAID ON THE FIRST PAGE IS TRUE.

THE ONLY THING I'VE SEEN STRIPPING IS YOUR BODY. PAY ATTENTION, IRENE-SAN.

LOOK AT THIS COMIC. THIS IS SOOO BEAUTIFULLY DRAWN... WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DRAW THIS GOOD. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

LET ME SEE.

YEAH, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

IMPOSSIBLE.

IT'S ME. AND MY COUSIN.

IRENE-SAN, WHY ARE ALL OF YOUR STORIES SET IN MAJORCA?

MAJORCA IS MY BIRTHPLACE. I DO SLICE-OF-LIFE STORIES AND THIS IS THE ENVIRONMENT I KNOW BEST.


YOU COULD DO SOME RESEARCH.
I'M FINE WITH MY ISLAND.

WHY DO YOU ONLY DRAW SLICE-OF-LIFE COMICS?

BECAUSE IT'S WHAT I DO BEST. BUILDING A GOOD STORY ISN'T EASY FOR ME, I SAID IT BEFORE.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING INTERESTING TO SAY, SO YOU TURN YOUR OWN LIFE INTO DISGUISED AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL STORIES, THOUGH YOU ARE TOO ASHAMED TO ADMIT THEY'RE ACTUALLY ABOUT YOU. DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT YOU'RE DECEIVING THE READER SIMPLY BY DRAWING YOURSELF AS A FEMALE?

FLOP

HELLO, GUILLEM-SAN. HOW DO YOU FEEL?

UNCOMFORTABLE. CAN WE STOP THIS NOW?

NOT YET. YOU'RE NOT ONLY FAKING THE STORIES, YOU'RE ALSO PASSING THE HOT POTATO ON THE ART.

EH EH EH

I PUT IN A LOT OF EFFORT EVERY DAY TRYING TO BE A BETTER ARTIST. NO QUESTION.

REALLY? THEN WHY ARE YOU CONTINUOUSLY LOOKING FOR STORYLINES THAT FIT WHAT YOU WANT TO DRAW? IS THAT THE WAY TO BECOME A GOOD ARTIST?

OH, GUILLEM-SAN, WHAT A COINCIDENCE. WE HAVE LANDED ON THE KIND OF BEACH WITH UMBRELLAS YOU LOVE TO DRAW.

AND GIRLS.

(ALMOST NAKED.)

YOU'RE FLYING A SEAPLANE, DO YOU REMEMBER? SCRIPT DEMANDS.

YOU'RE A LAZY, SELF-SATISFIED ARTIST.

WHAT ABOUT THE SEAPLANE? DOESN'T IT COUNT? DRAWING IT REQUIRES SOME SKILLS (AS YOU MAY KNOW).

YOUR MOST RESPECTED ARTIST IS HAROLD FOSTER, BUT INSTEAD OF HIM, YOU'VE CHOSEN ME FOR ALL THIS REVEALING SPEECH. THIS WAY YOU HAD THE EXCUSE TO DRAW THIS COOL SEAPLANE. WHY NOT SIR FOSTER ON A HORSE?

I HATE DRAWING HORSES.

THANK YOU. NOW IT'S CLEAR YOU'RE A FRAUD AS AN ARTIST AND AS A WRITER. BESIDES, YOUR ENORMOUS EGO DOESN'T ALLOW YOU TO CONSIDER ANYONE ELSE'S OPINION, AND ACTUALLY I'M SURE YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME. YOU JUST WANT PEOPLE TO PRAISE YOUR WORK, THAT'S WHY YOU DRAW COMICS.

THAT'S NOT TRUE. I DRAW FOR MYSELF. I STARTED WHEN I WAS A CHILD, JUST FOR THE PLEASURE OF DOING IT, AND IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE SAME.

GUILLEM-SAN, DO YOU WANT TO SEE THE DAY YOU STOPPED DOING COMICS FOR YOURSELF?

I'LL ASK DADDY TO MAKE PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS AND I'LL GIVE THEM AWAY AT SCHOOL.

O-KAY. THIS IS THE WAY I HAVE TO FULFILL MYSELF.

EVERYBODY SEEKS ACCEPTANCE AND ADMIRATION. SOME PEOPLE WILL ADD SPOILERS TO A SPORTS CAR TO MAKE IT LOOK COOL, AND SOME OTHERS WILL SPEND TIME TRYING TO GET THE BEST SELFIE, CLEAVAGE INCLUDED, ONLY TO GET MORE LIKES ON INSTAGRAM. SO WHAT? IS THAT WRONG?

COOL DOWN. DON'T BE ON THE DEFENSIVE. MOST OF WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU WON'T BE ACTUALLY USEFUL. IN THE END, YOU'RE THE ONE WRITING MY WORDS.

NO MATTER HOW CANDID YOU MAKE THEM LOOK, YOU WON'T FOOL THE READER. I ONLY HOPE YOU REALIZE WHY YOU REALLY DO WHAT YOU DO AND STOP FOOLING YOURSELF.

FLOP

IRENE

ARTIST AS A LIE.

GUILLEM MARCH 08

MUSE

THE STORY
behind ***Muse***

MUSES A GOGO IS A SELF-PUBLISHED LITTLE ARTBOOK I CROWDFUNDED SOME YEARS AGO THROUGH THE SPANISH PLATFORM VERKAMI. IT MOSTLY CONSISTS OF PINUPS AND FEMALE NUDE DRAWINGS.

BACKERS WERE ABLE TO GET A COPY OF THE BOOK ALONG WITH AN ORIGINAL DRAWING MADE INSIDE THE BOOK. INSTEAD OF DOING RANDOM SKETCHES, I DECIDED THAT EACH ONE OF THE DRAWINGS WOULD BE A PANEL OF A FUTURE COMIC.

THAT COMIC WAS MUSE. I SCANNED ALL THE PANELS BEFORE SENDING THE BOOKS TO THE BACKERS, AND HAVE COLORED THE WHOLE COMIC TO BE INCLUDED HERE.

PLEASE, DON'T BE TOO TOUGH WITH THIS STORY. IT WAS MEANT TO BE A LIGHTHEARTED AMUSEMENT.





10/82

1/82

REBECA, THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU...

WHAT?

2/82

IT'S ABOUT THE FINAL PROJECT FOR THE ARTISTIC DRAWING CLASS. I MUST FILL A WHOLE SKETCHBOOK WITH LIFE NUDES.

DRAWINGS OF NAKED PEOPLE.

THAT'S IT.

3/82

I'M GOING TO ASK A CLASSMATE IF SHE CAN POSE FOR ME. AND, WELL, IF WE COME HERE, WE'LL NEED THE COUCH.

POSING NAKED ON MY COUCH.

EH... YEP. ON OUR COUCH.

4/82

I SEE. BUT WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE HERE?

BECAUSE OF THE LIGHT. THE LIVING ROOM IS THE ONLY PLACE IN THE HOUSE WITH NATURAL LIGHT.

OF COURSE. THE LIGHT.

5/82

I'M NOT SURE IF I LIKE THE IDEA OF FINDING A NAKED GIRL LYING ON MY COUCH.

NO WORRIES. I'LL ASK HER TO NOT BE A NAKED SERIAL KILLER.

I JUST NEED TO KNOW IF I CAN COUNT ON THE PLACE OR NOT.

6/82

YEAH, I DUNNO. I GUESS I DON'T MIND. HAVE YOU TOLD ENRIQUE ABOUT THIS?

7/82

ACTUALLY NO. I'LL MAKE THE SESSIONS COINCIDE WITH HIS LATE SHIFT AT THE SHOP, SO HE DOESN'T POKE AROUND.

WELL DONE.

8/82

WOULD YOU LET ME KNOW BEFORE BRINGING HER HOME?

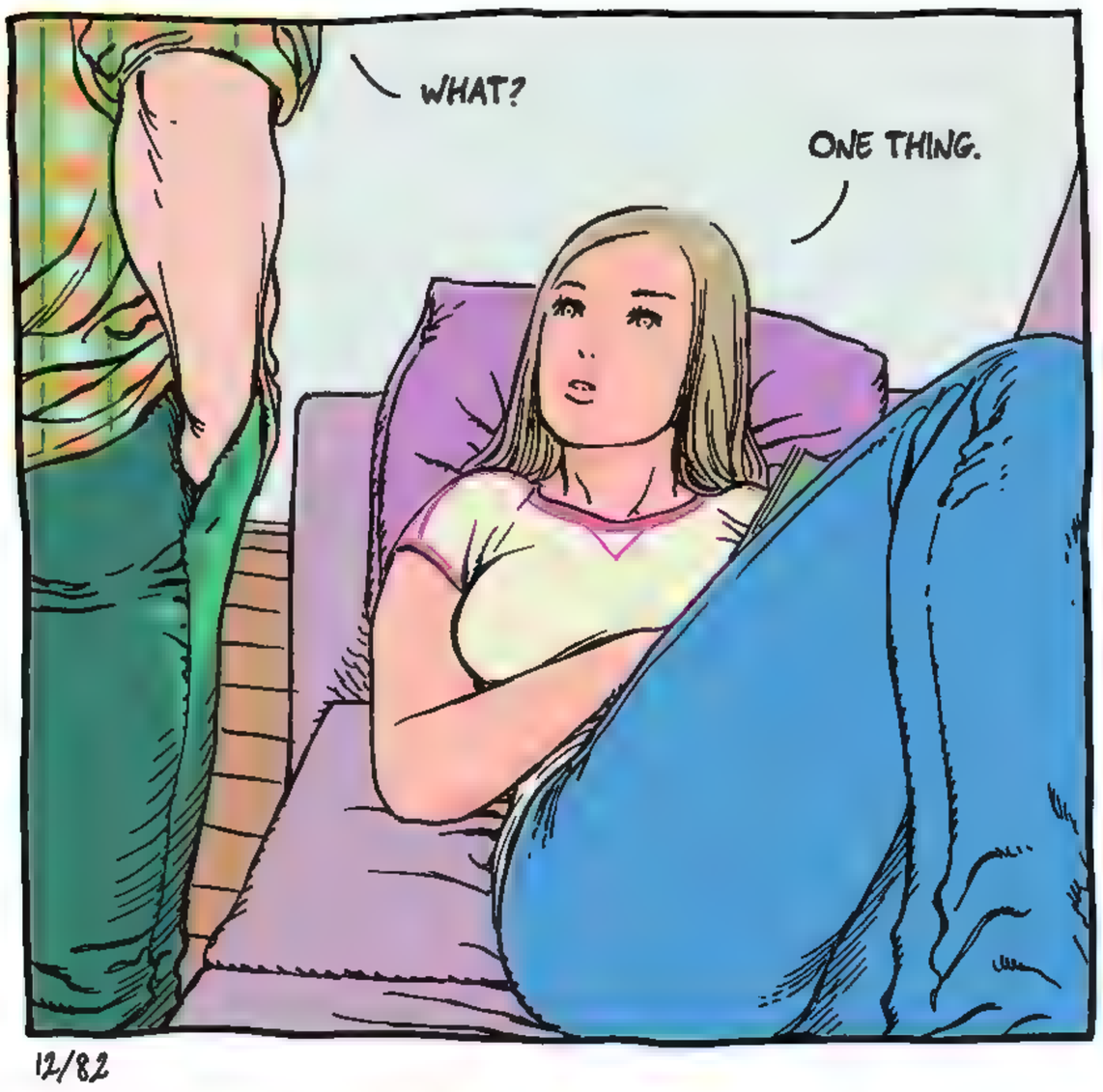
SURE.

9/82

10/82

LISTEN.

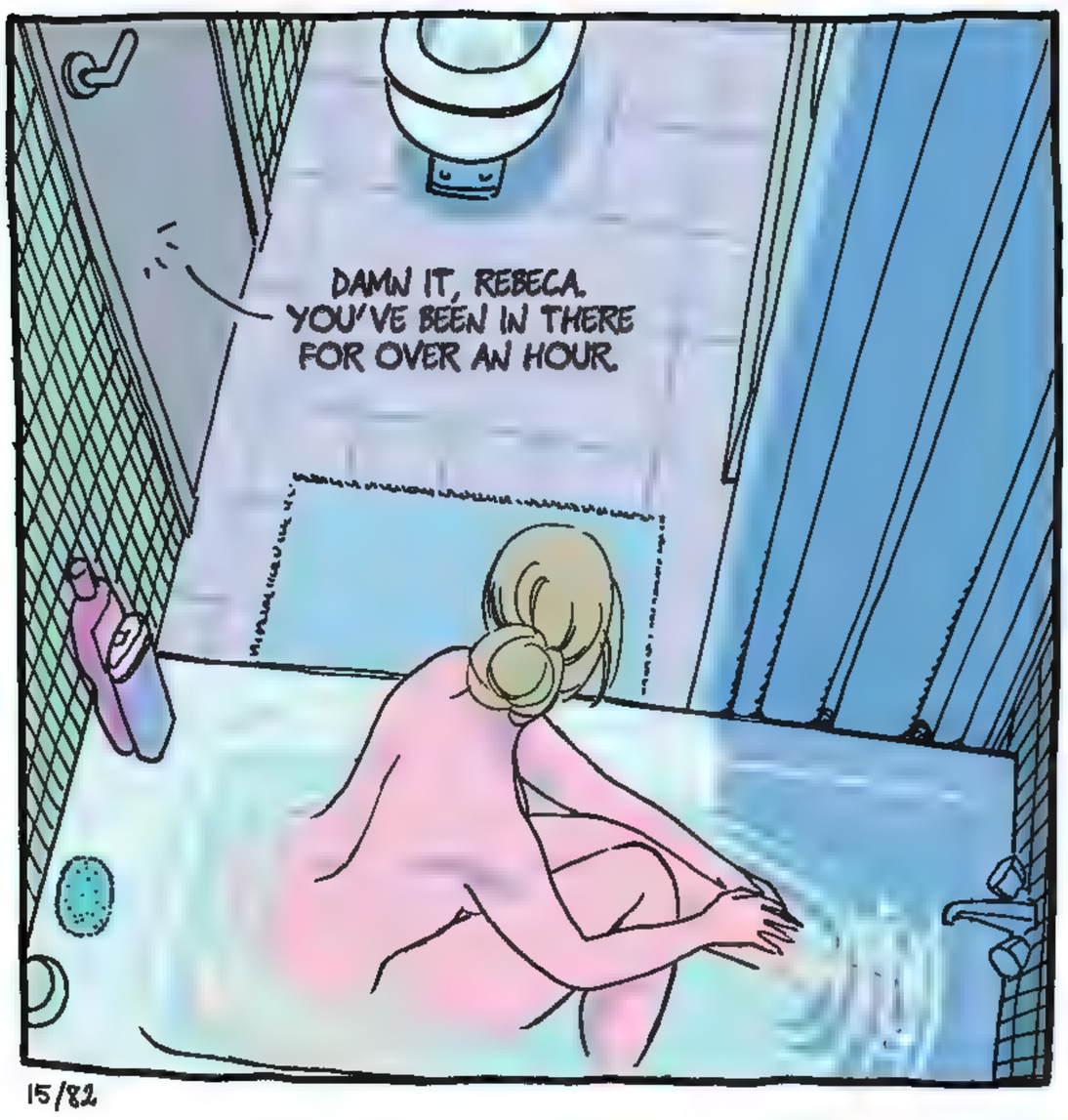
11/82



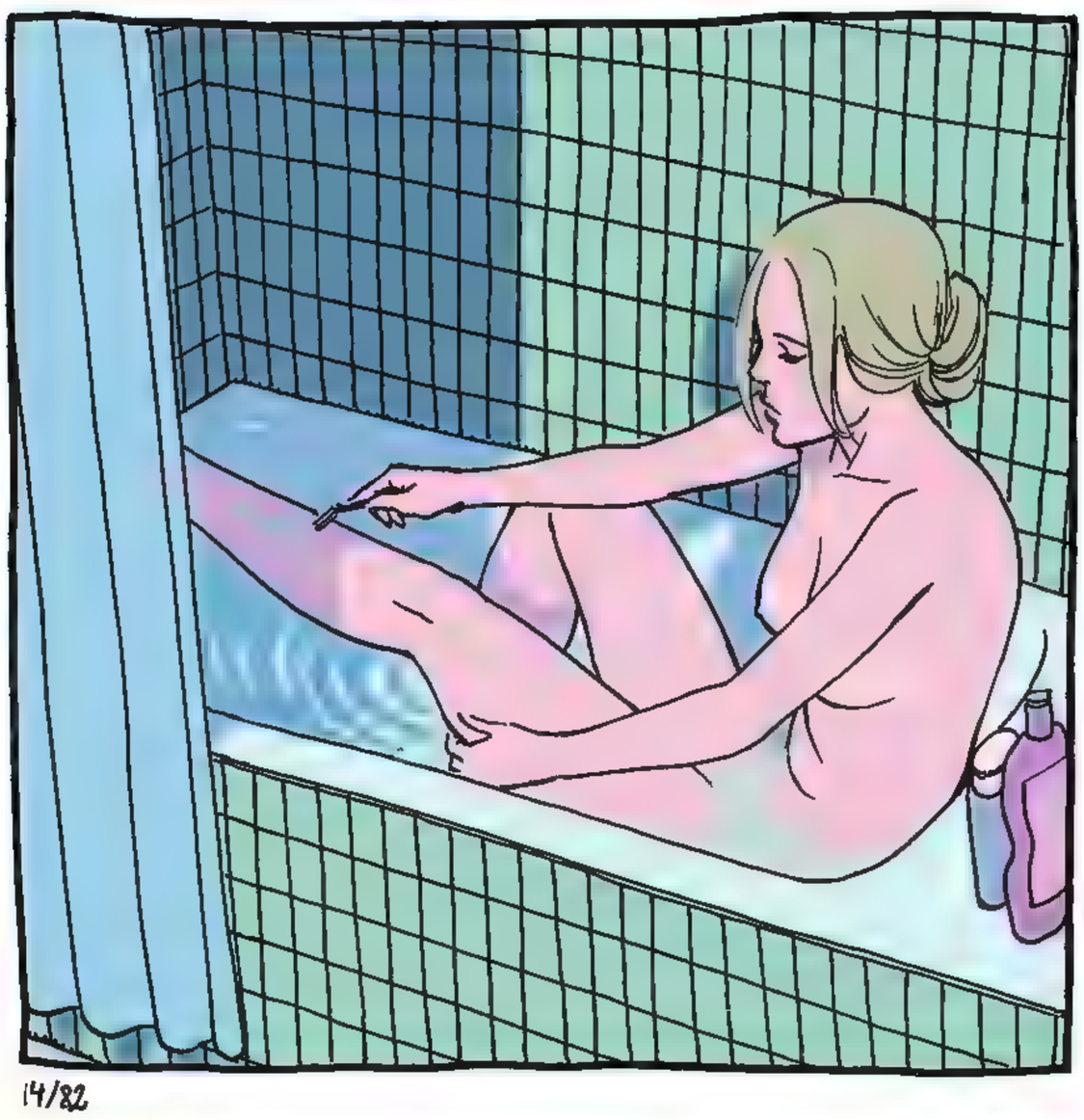
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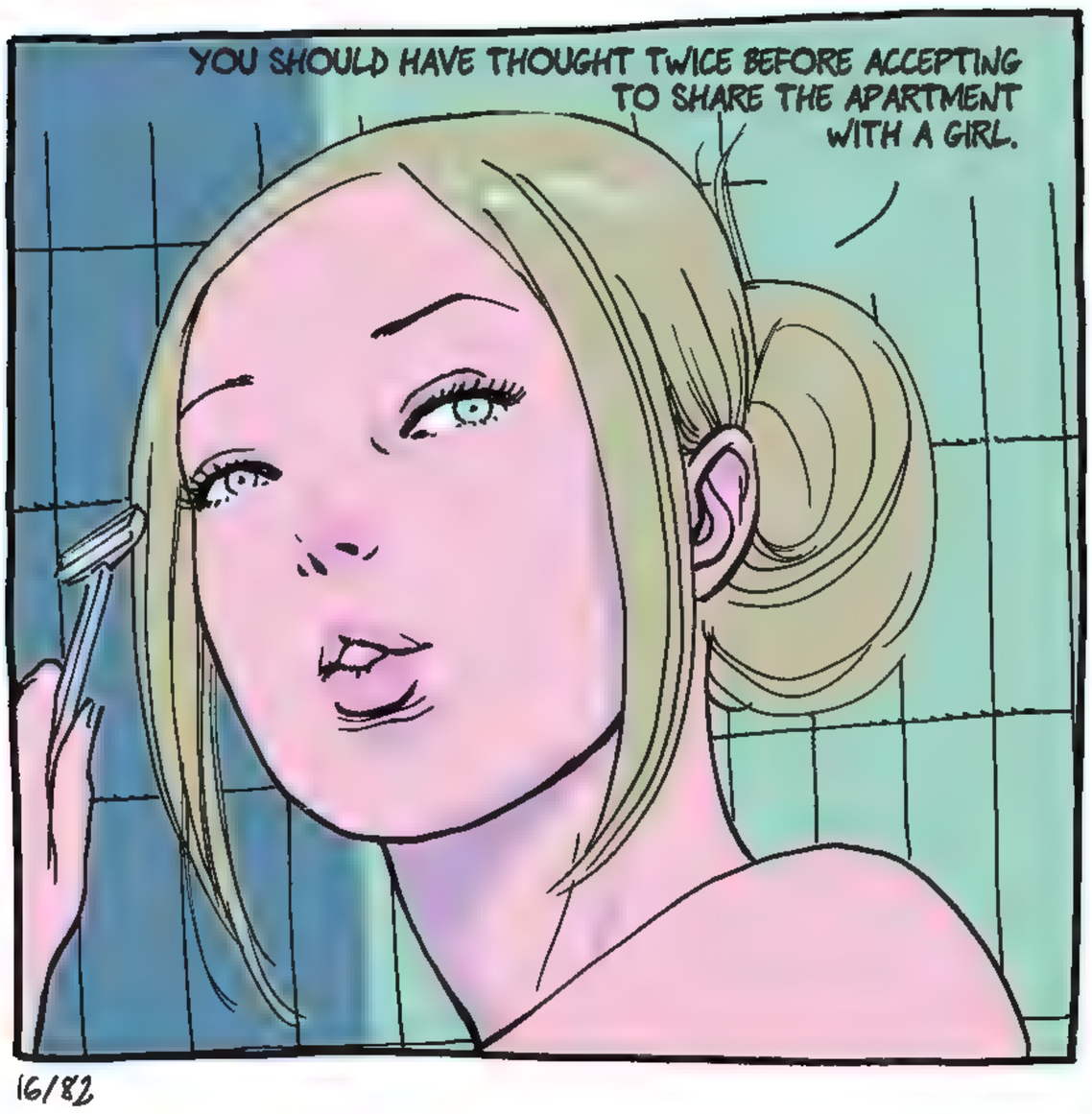
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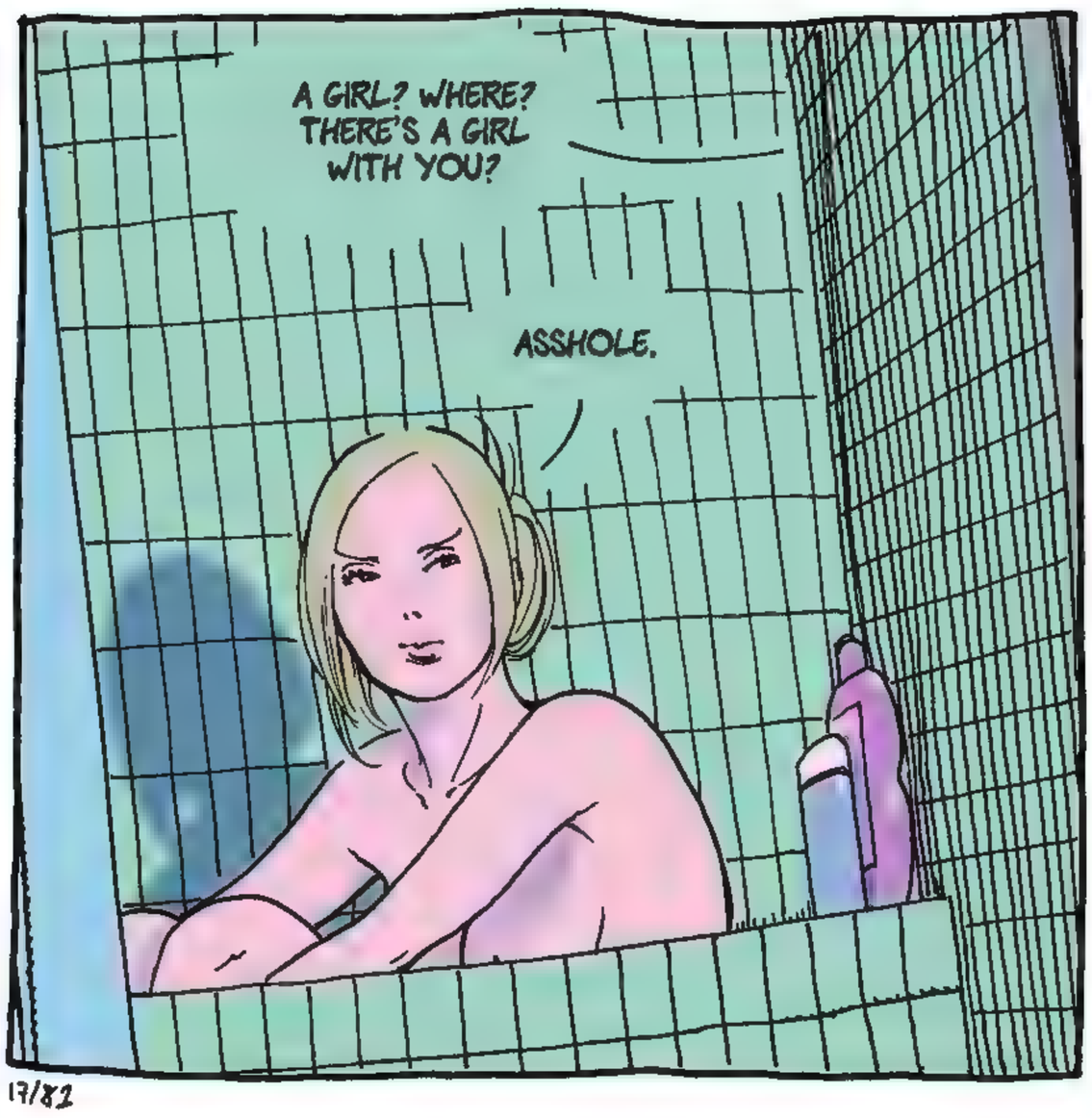
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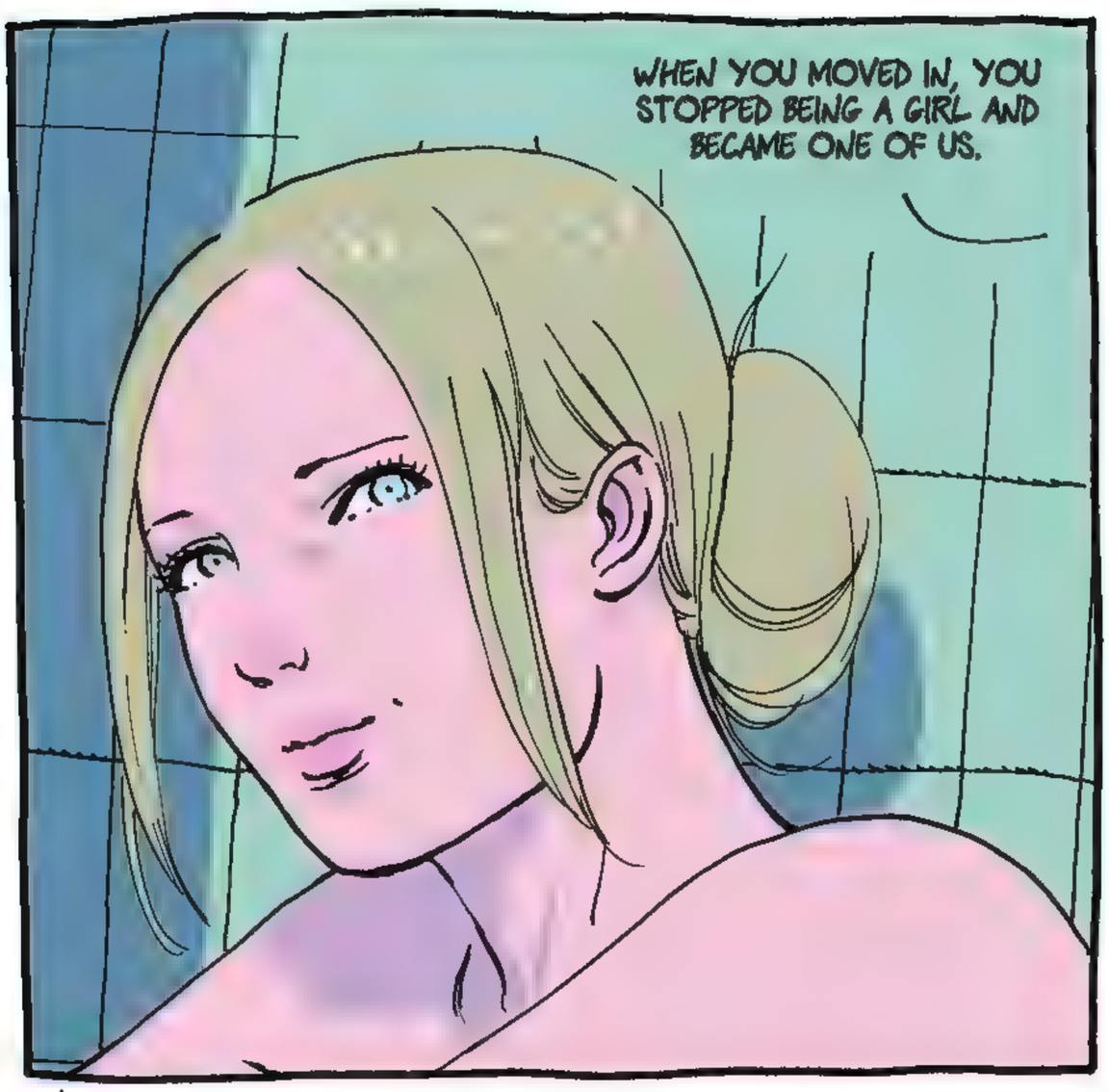
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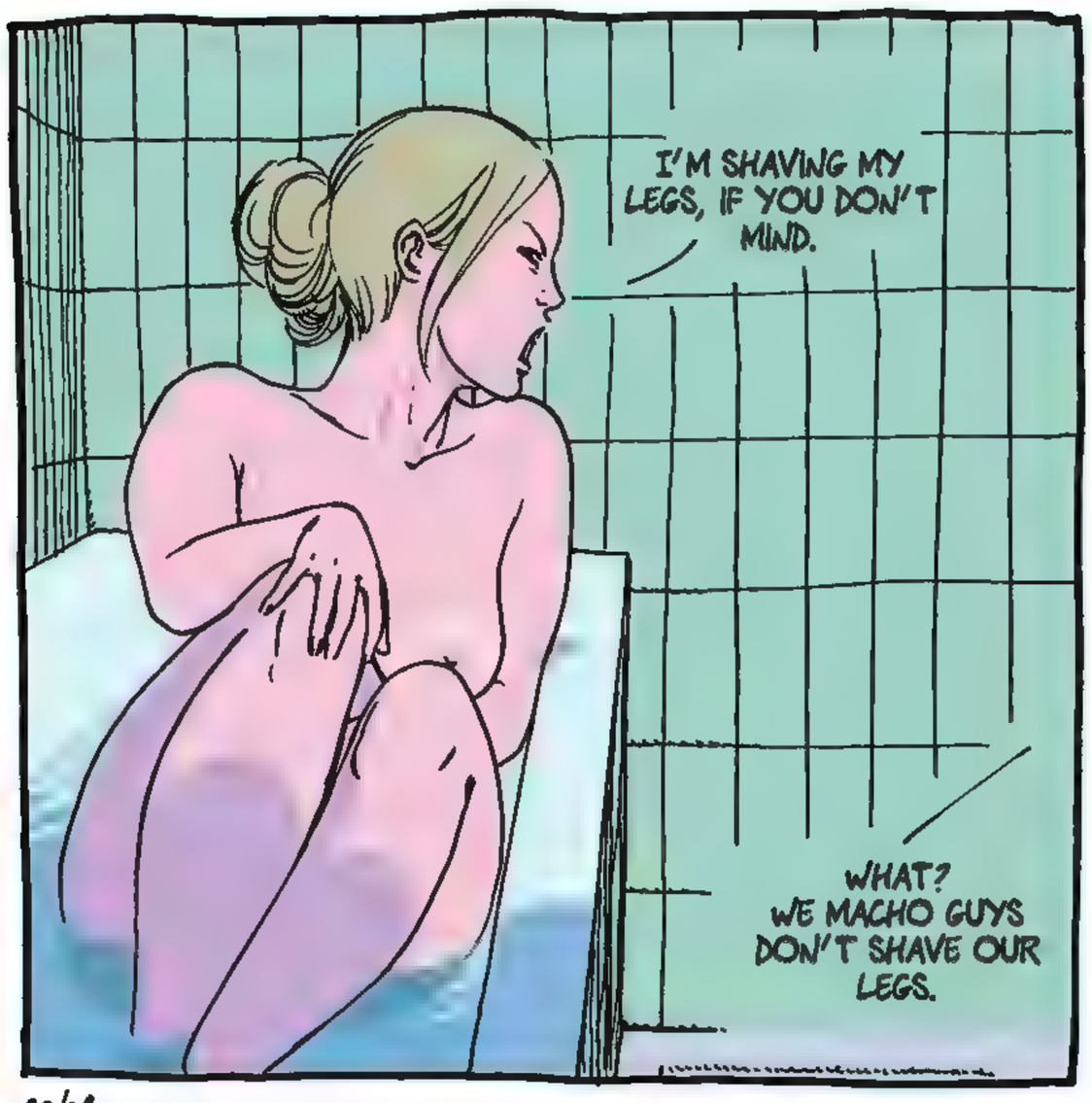
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8/82



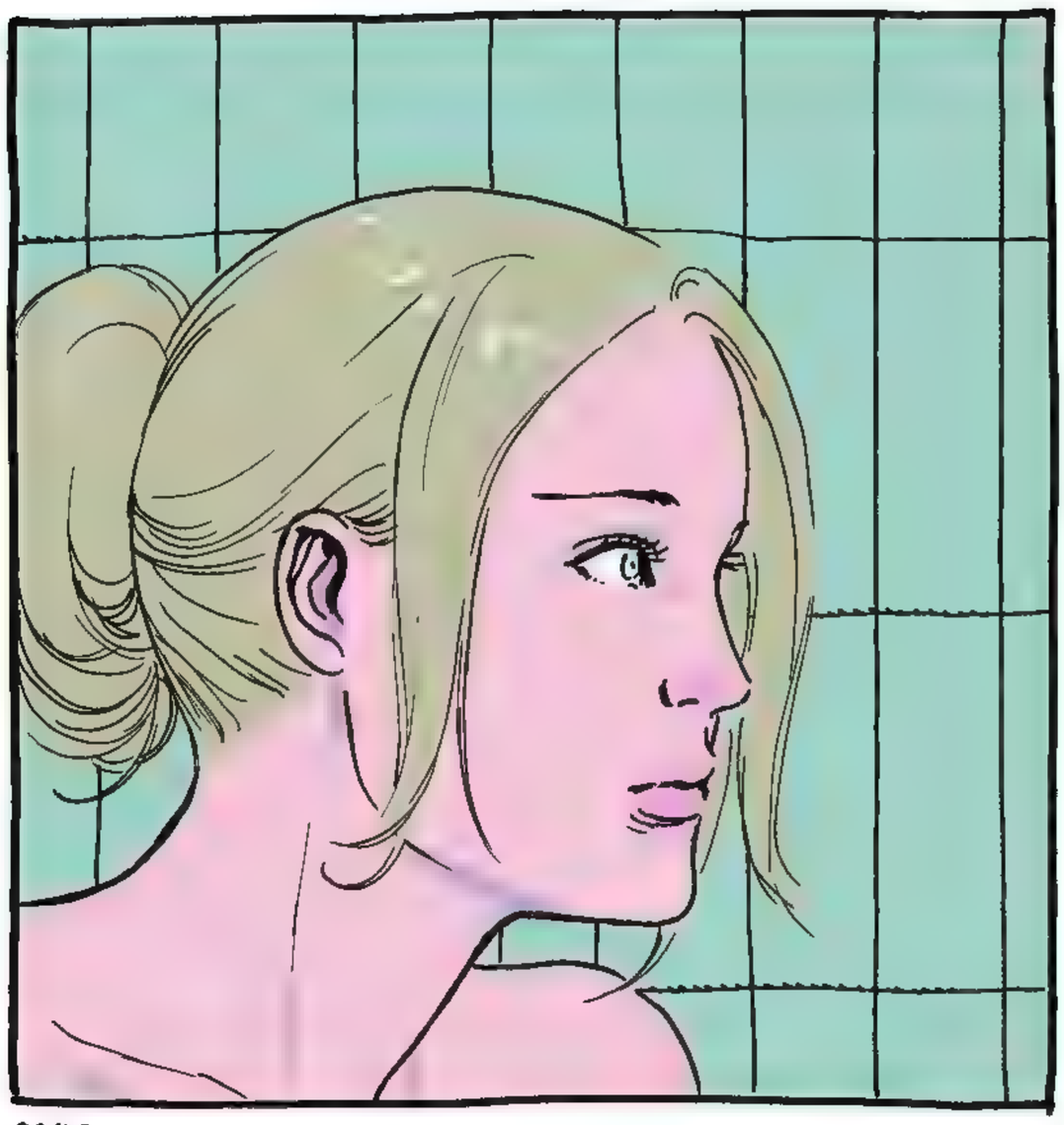
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23/82



24/82



25/82



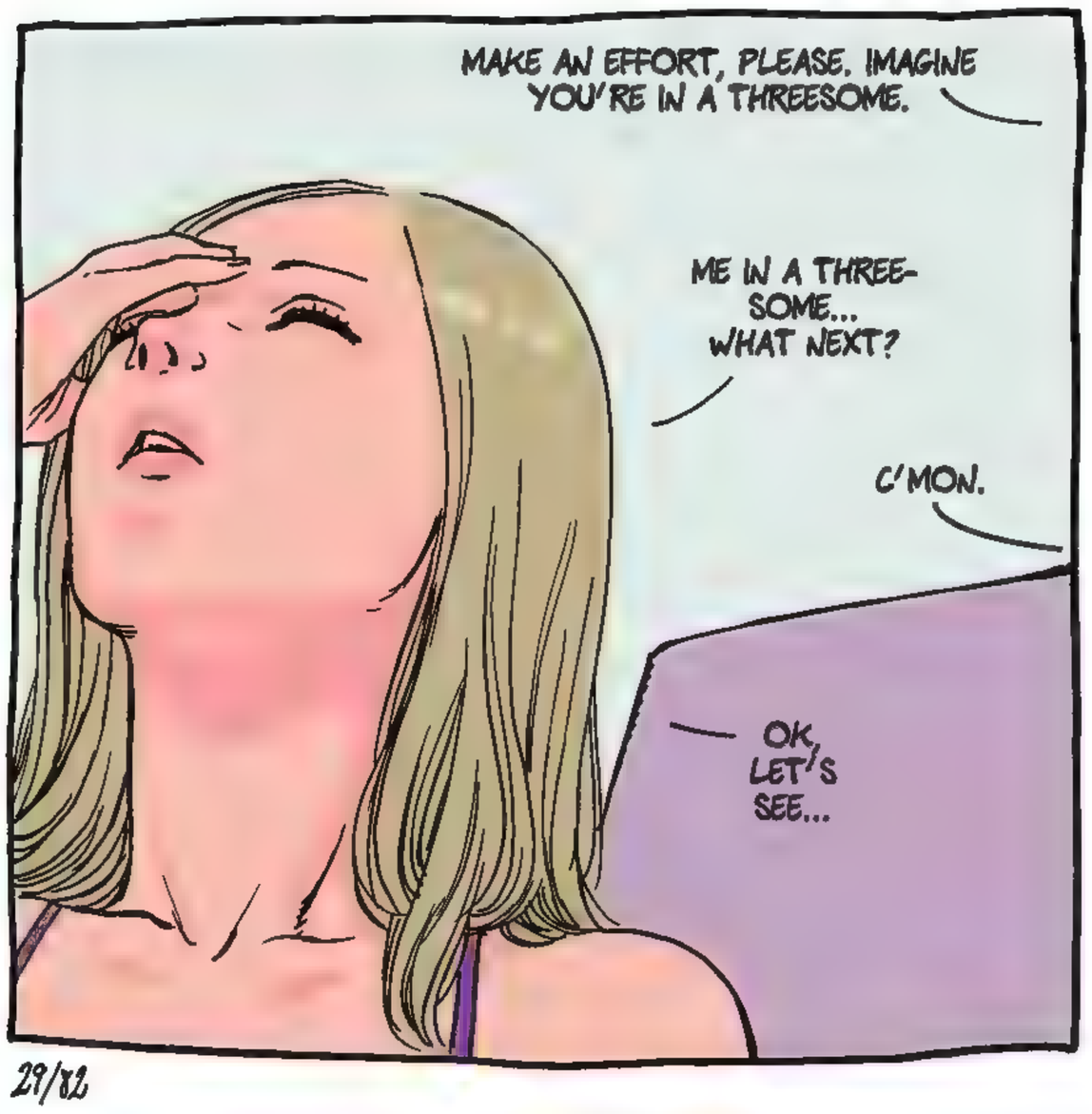
26/83



27/82



28/82



29/82

I GUESS I LIKE MONICA BELLUCCI MORE.

30/82

BUT LOOK AT VERGARA'S INCREDIBLE BOOBS. YOU MUST PUT THOSE INTO THE EQUATION.

YOU ASKED WHO I WOULD PREFER TO FUCK, NOT WHO HAD BIGGER BOOBS.

31/82

WAIT, I UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON HERE. YOU'RE NOT IMPRESSED AT ALL BY VERGARA'S BOOBS BECAUSE YOURS ARE BIG TOO.

32/82

BECAUSE, WELL, IT'S OBVIOUS YOURS ARE QUITE BIG.

RIGHT?

— SURE.

32/82

DUDE, HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?

NOPE. —

THEN HOW DO YOU KNOW SHE DOESN'T HAVE HER BRA STUFFED?

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION.

33/82

WANNA SEE THEM??

NO, NO, NO. —

UGH. NO, PLEASE — COVER YOURSELF.

MERCY. —

34/82

GREAT. I WASN'T GOING TO SHOW YOU SHIT!

WO-HAA. THAT WAS CLOSE.

IT WAS JUST A SCARE.

35/82

HA HA HA

HA HA

ASSHOLES.

36/82

WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING?

DOODLES.

37/82

DID YOU FIND YOUR MUSE?

I RAN OUT OF MUSES.

HOW'S THAT?

38/82

THE FEW GIRLS IN THE CLASSROOM HAVE TEAMED TOGETHER.

MOST OF THE GUYS ARE DRAWING THEIR GIRLFRIENDS, OR HAPPEN TO HAVE MODEL FRIENDS.

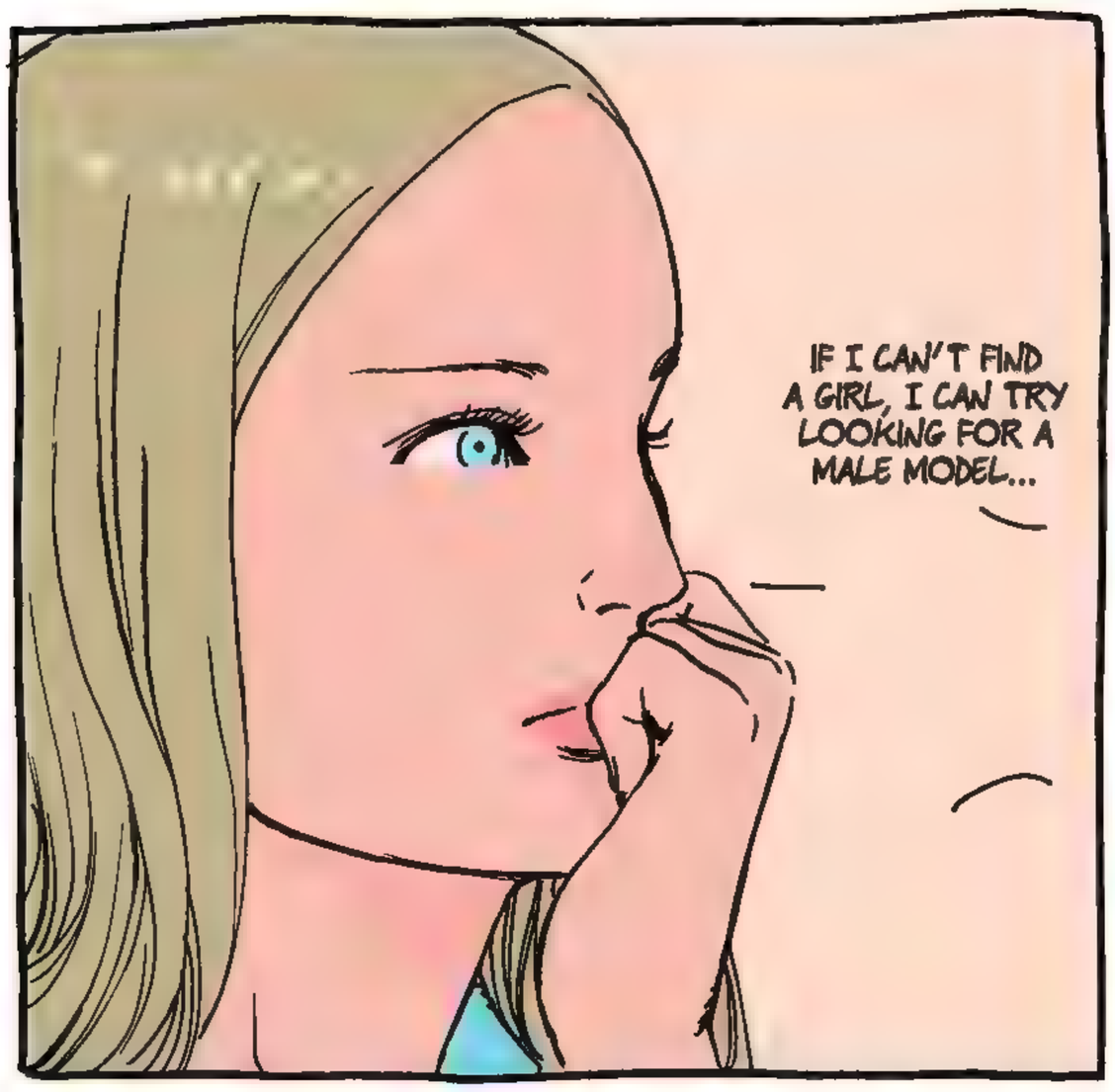
IT SEEMS I'M THE ONLY ONE OUTSIDE THE ARTY-FARTY CREW.

39/82

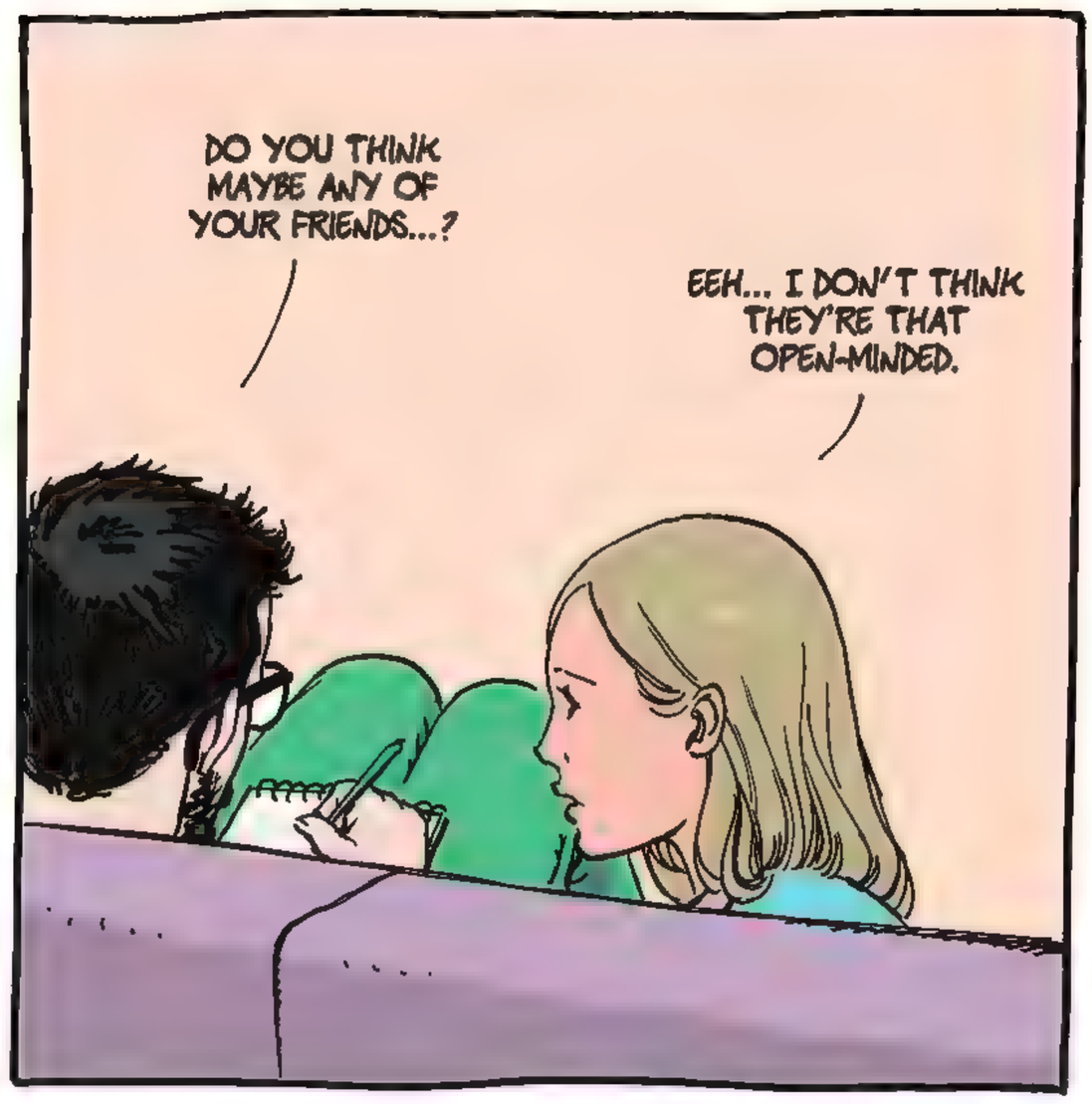
HAHA. AND WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO, YOU OUTSIDER?

I RAN OUT OF MONEY SO I CAN'T AFFORD PAYING A MODEL FOR SO MANY SESSIONS...

40/82



41/82



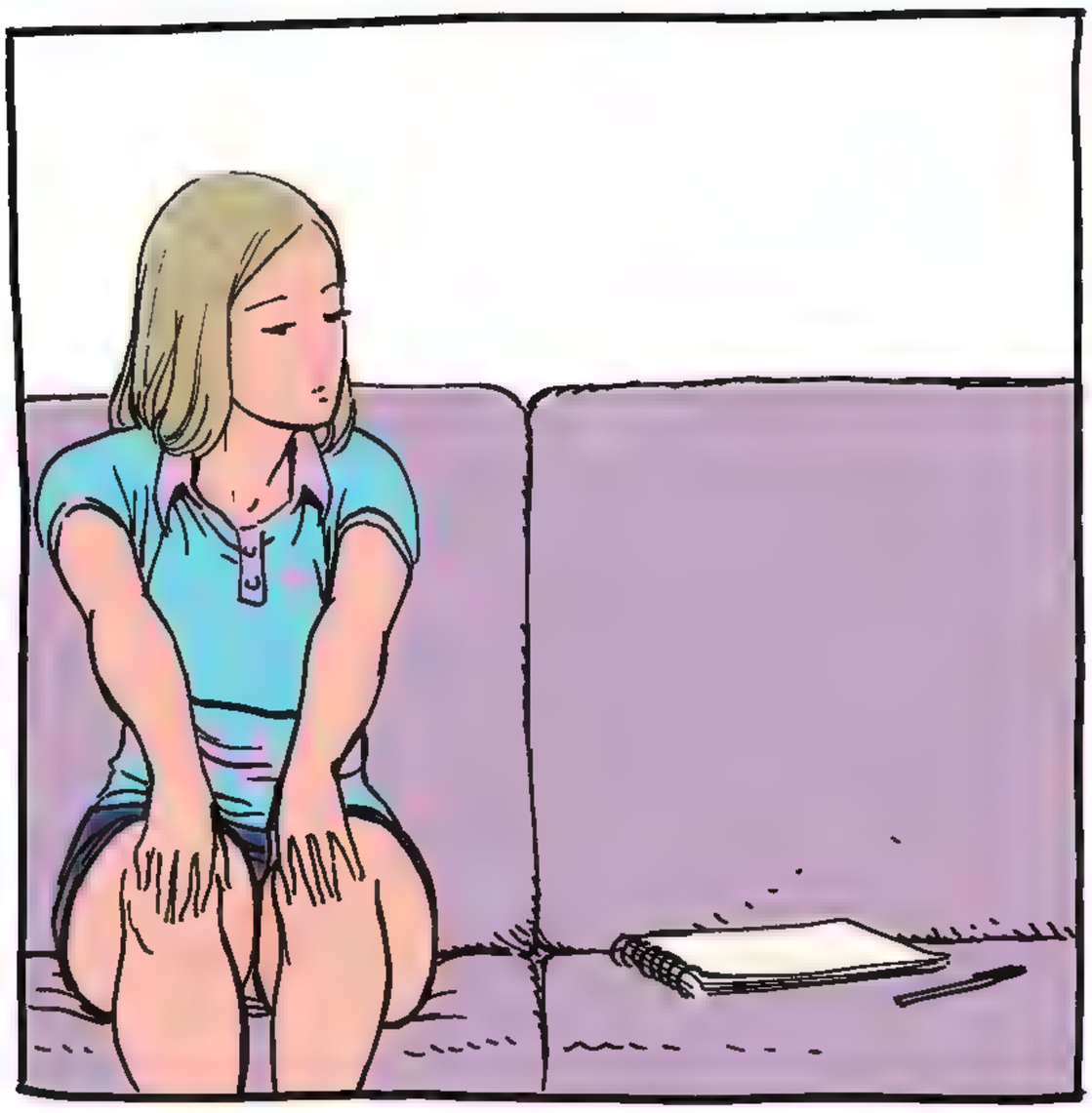
42/82



43/82



44/82



45/82



46/82

¡REBECA, ERES UNA COTILLA!

ME GUSTAN LAS TETITAS DE MONICA BELLUCCI

OH, LA,LA

REBECA, YOU'RE A BUSYBODY.

"I LIKE MONICA BELLUCCI'S BOOBIES"

47/82

HAHAHA

WHAT AN IDIOT.

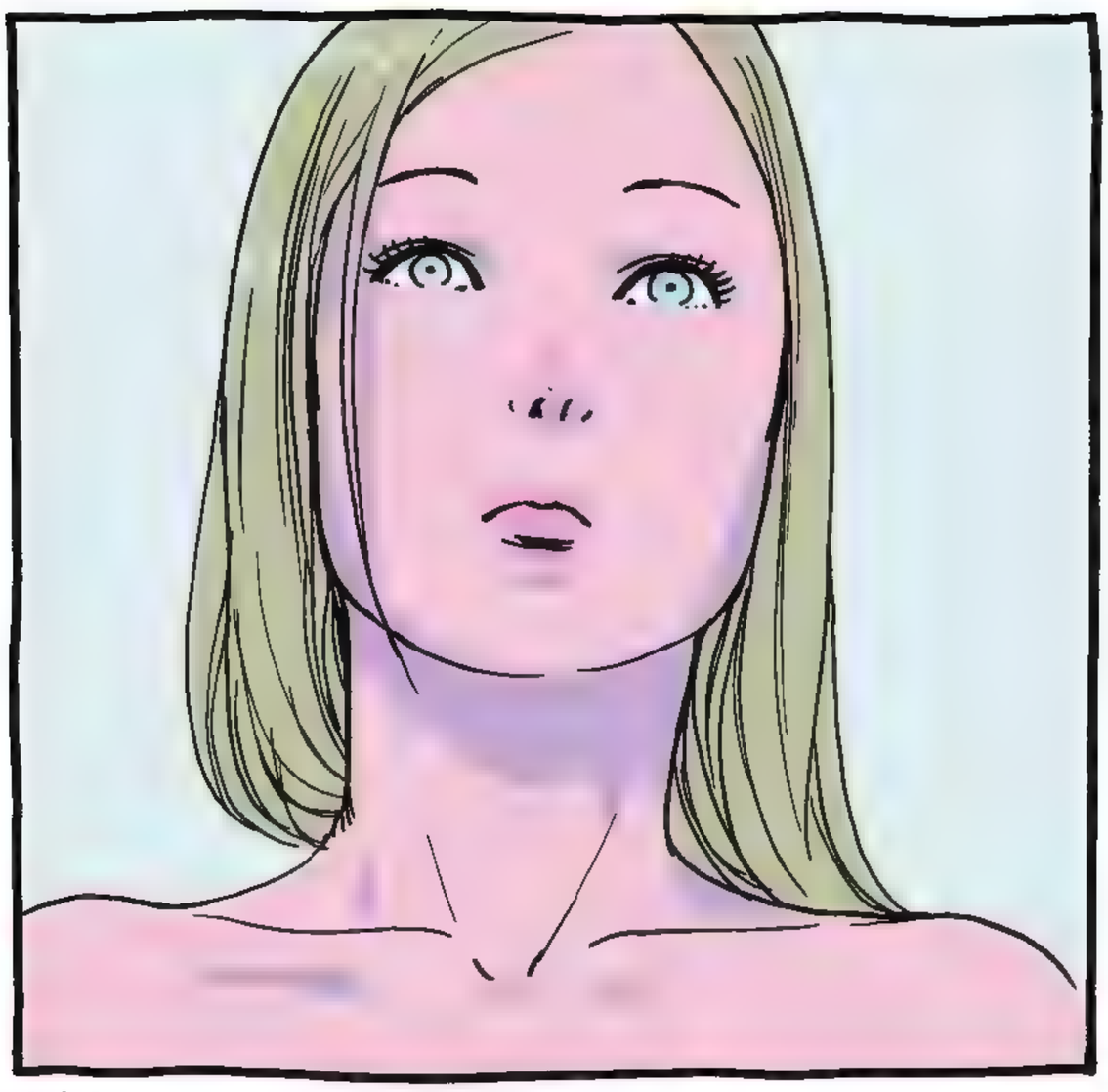
48/82

49/82

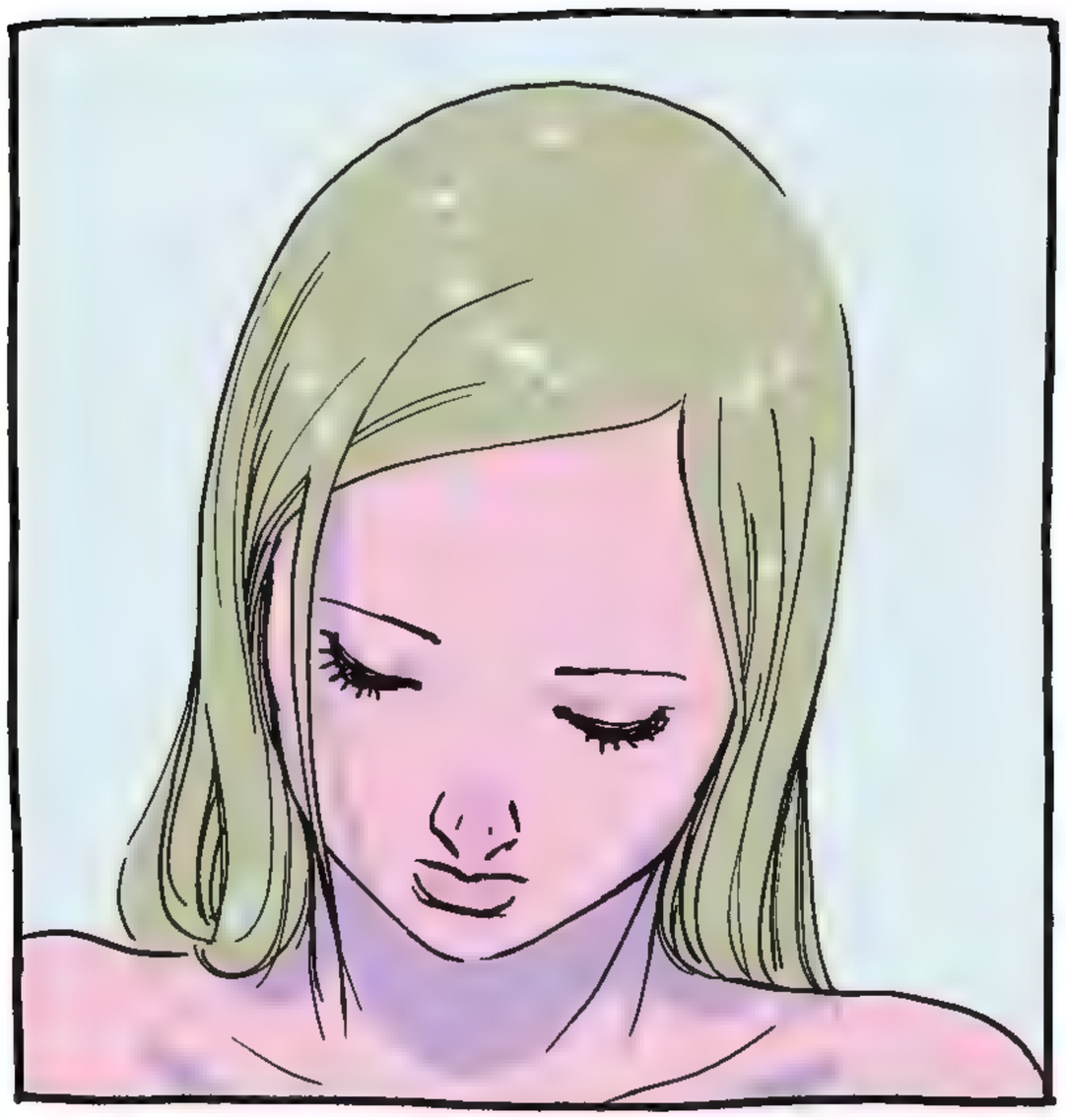
50/82

51/82

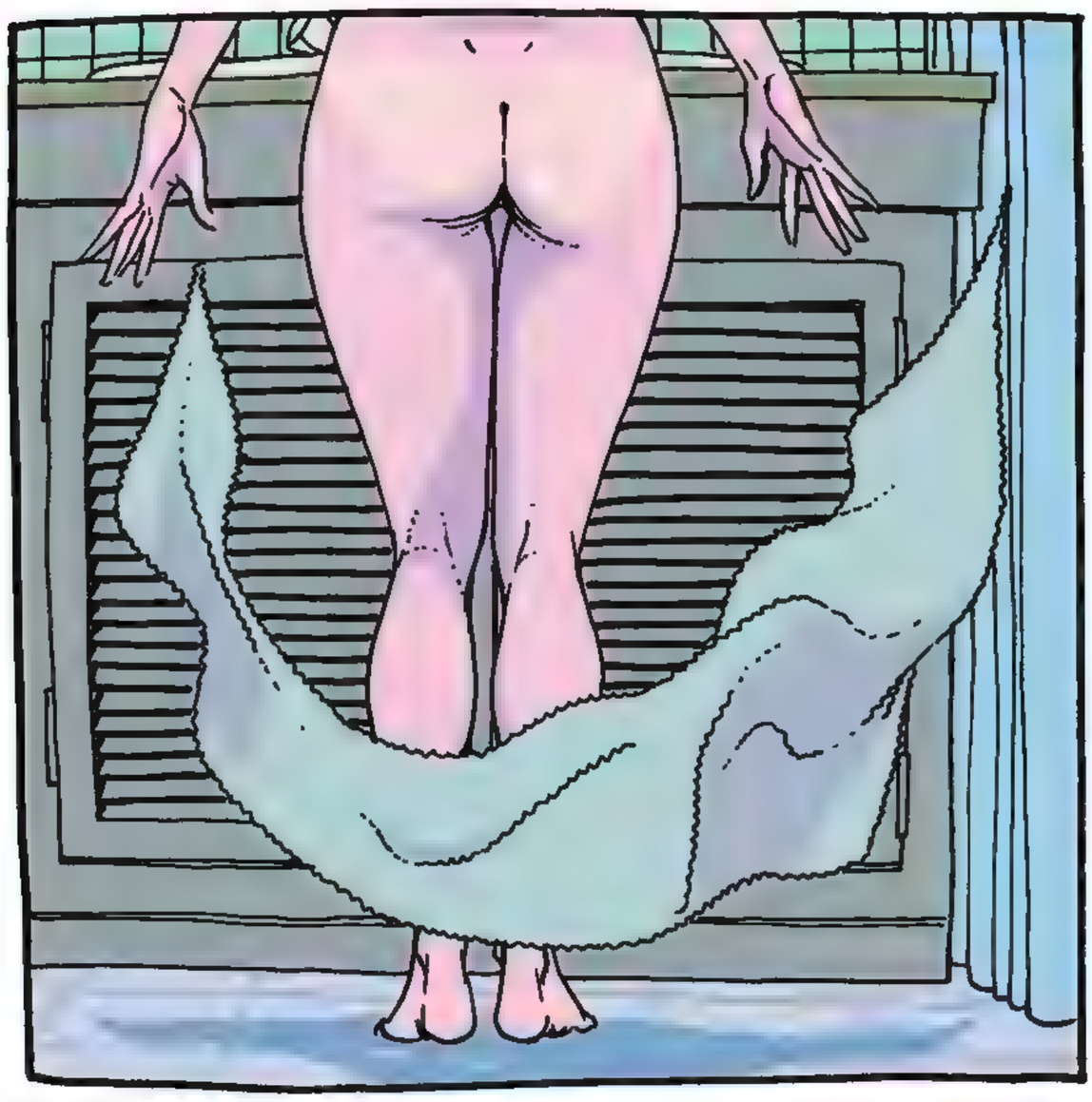
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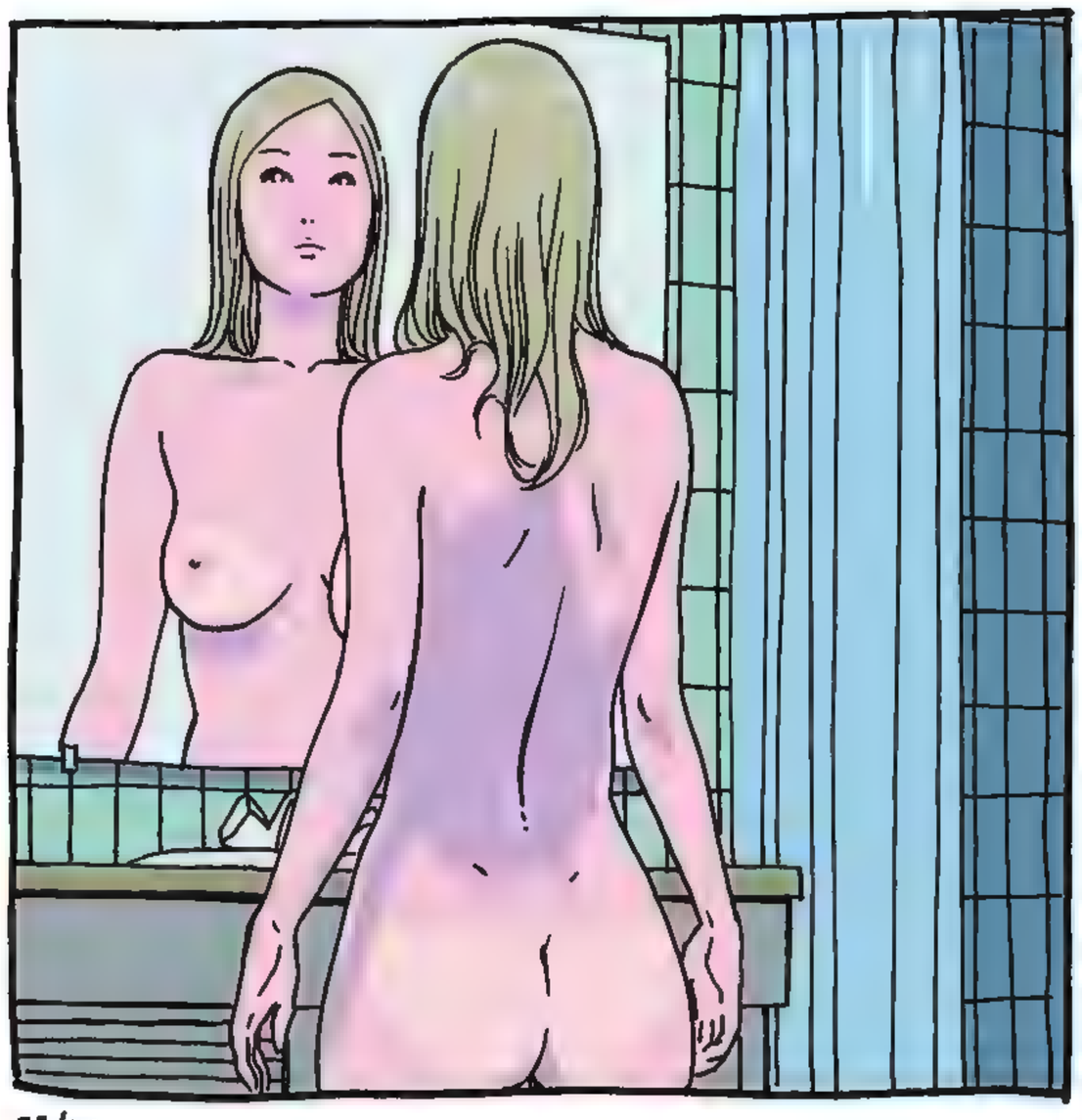
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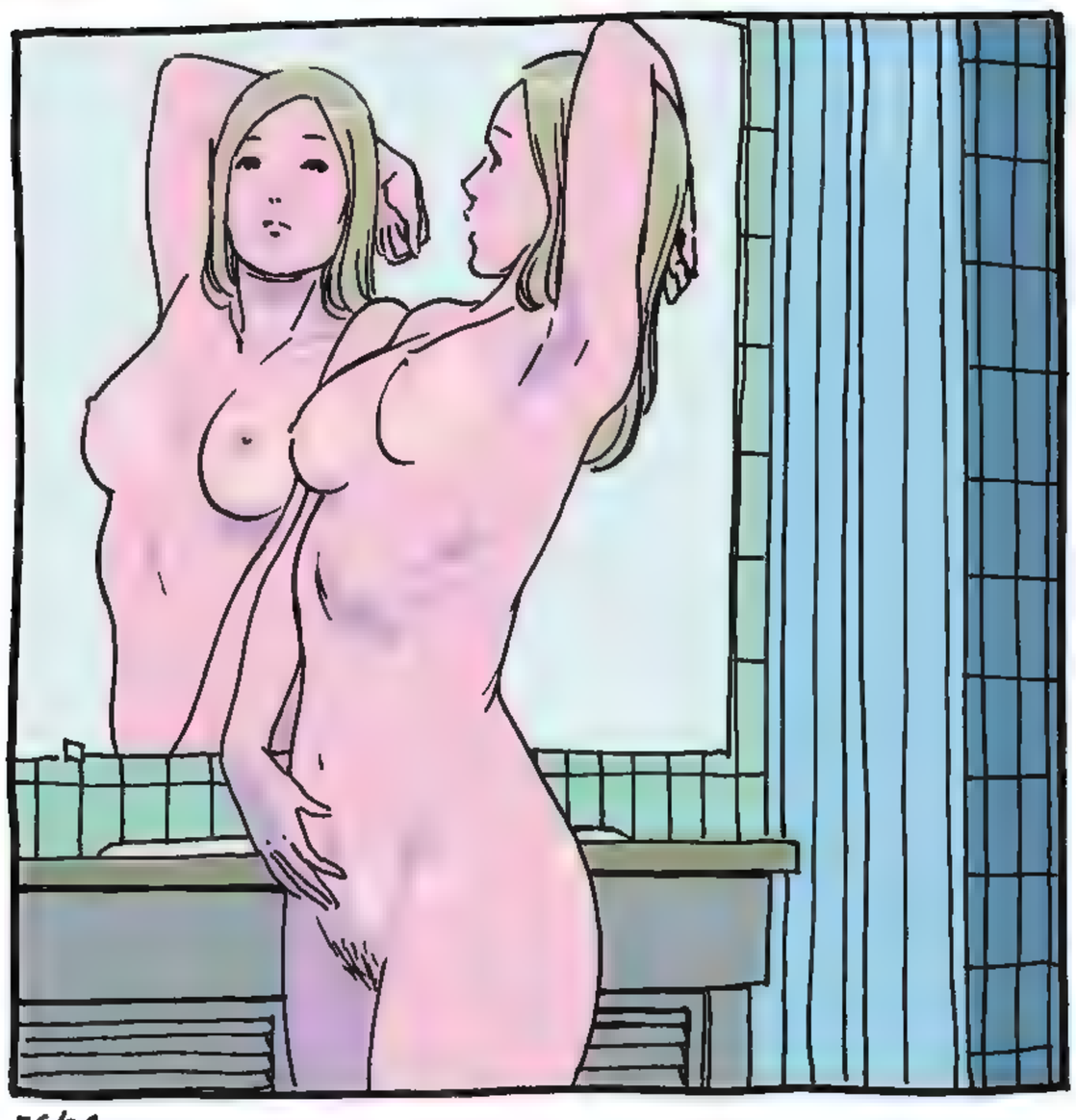
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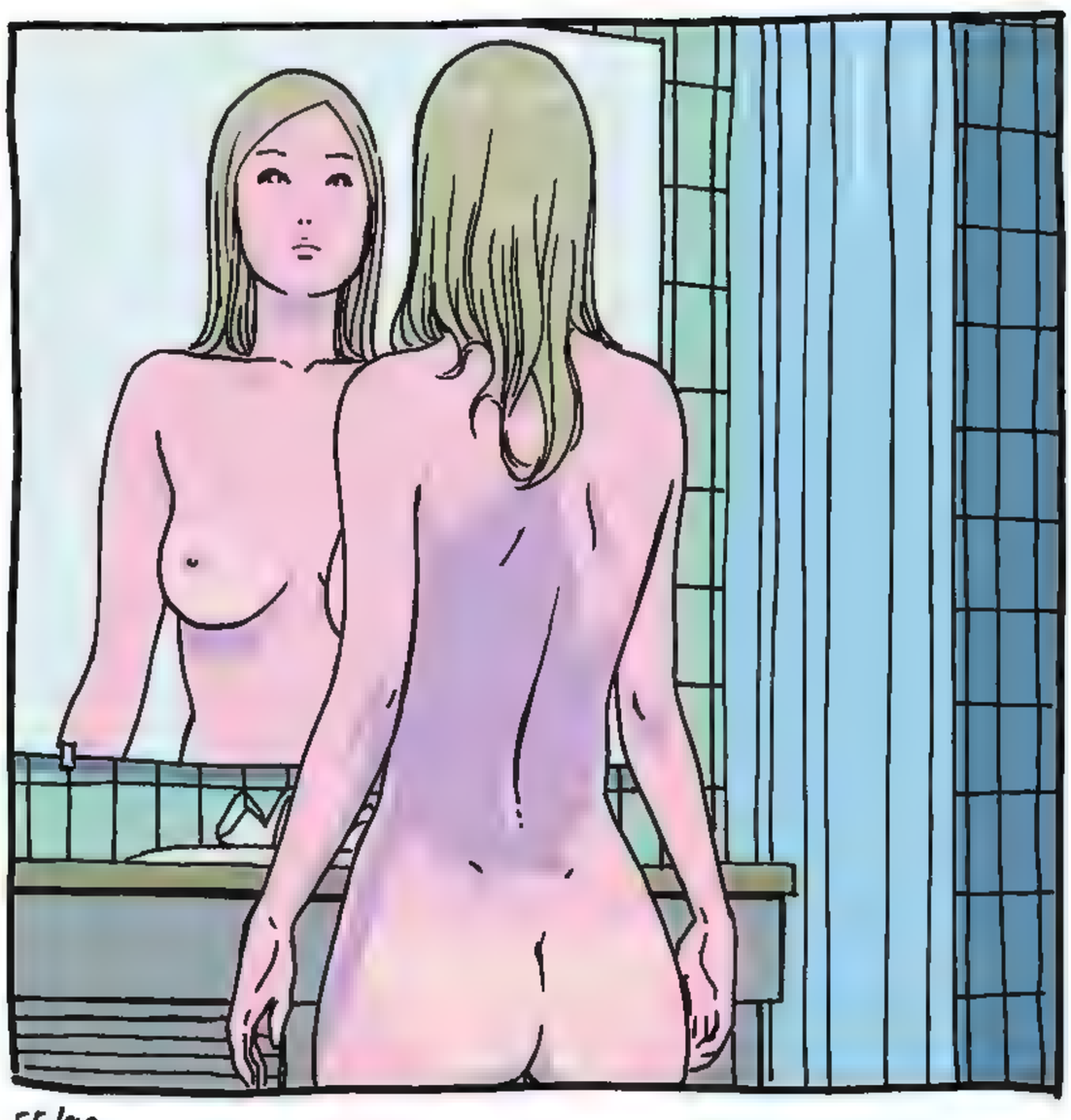
54/82



55/82



56/82



55/82

53/82

58/82

59/82

50/82

WHAT?? ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME? NO OFFENSE, BUT THAT SOUNDS WEIRD. AND VERY GAY, ALSO.

OK, THANK YOU, DUDE. NOW I KNOW WHO I SHOULDN'T ASK FOR A FAVOR AGAIN.

60/82

60/82

OF COURSE I'M NOT GOING TO POSE IN MY GLORIOUS NUDITY IN FRONT OF YOUR EYES. AND I'M ACTUALLY DOING YOU A FAVOR, SCATTERBRAIN. LOOK FOR A GIRL FOR THAT DUTY.

61/82

IT HAPPENS THAT I'VE ALREADY TRIED TO FIND A GIRL, YOU CLEVER GUY.

I DON'T THINK YOU'VE TRIED TOO HARD. HAVE YOU ASKED ALL THE GIRLS YOU KNOW? AND YOUR FACEBOOK CONTACTS? DON'T ASSUME THEY'RE NOT INTERESTED.

...

62/82

WHAT ABOUT THAT ONE, ANITA?

"HELLO, ANITA, LONG TIME. WOULD YOU MIND GETTING NAKED FOR ME, I'M AN ARTIST."

63/82

FUCKING HELL, YES.

HOW CAN YOU BE SO ASHAMED? AREN'T YOU AN ARTIST? I DON'T KNOW SHIT ABOUT ART, BUT I DO KNOW YOU'RE A FUCKING GENIUS AND MODELING FOR YOU IS A DAMN PRIVILEGE. THEY SHOULD LINE UP TO GET DRAWN BY YOU.

64/82

AND REBECA?

AT LEAST YOU'VE ASKED HER, RIGHT?

65/82

SHE ALREADY KNOWS I'M LOOKING FOR A MODEL. IF SHE HAD WANTED TO MODEL, SHE'D HAVE SAID SO.

HAVE YOU ASKED HER, YES OR NO?

66/82

NO, ENRIQUE. I HAVE NOT ASKED HER BECAUSE IT'S OBVIOUS SHE IS NOT INTO MODELING.

THE ONLY THING OBVIOUS TO ME IS YOU'RE AN ASSHOLE.

67/82

OK. PLEASE, REBECA, CAN YOU TELL ENRIQUE THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO POSE?

68/82

EH... I...

69/82

SORRY. THAT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING...

70/82

WHAT ABOUT ELISA? I BET SHE SAYS YES.

YES, MAYYYYBE. BUT I JUST DON'T WANT ANY RANDOM GIRL. I SEEK THE BEAUTY IN MY DRAWINGS. ELISA IS...

AT LEAST SHE'S MORE GIRLY THAN ME, THAT'S FOR SURE, YOU PICKY ARTIST.

71/82

72/82



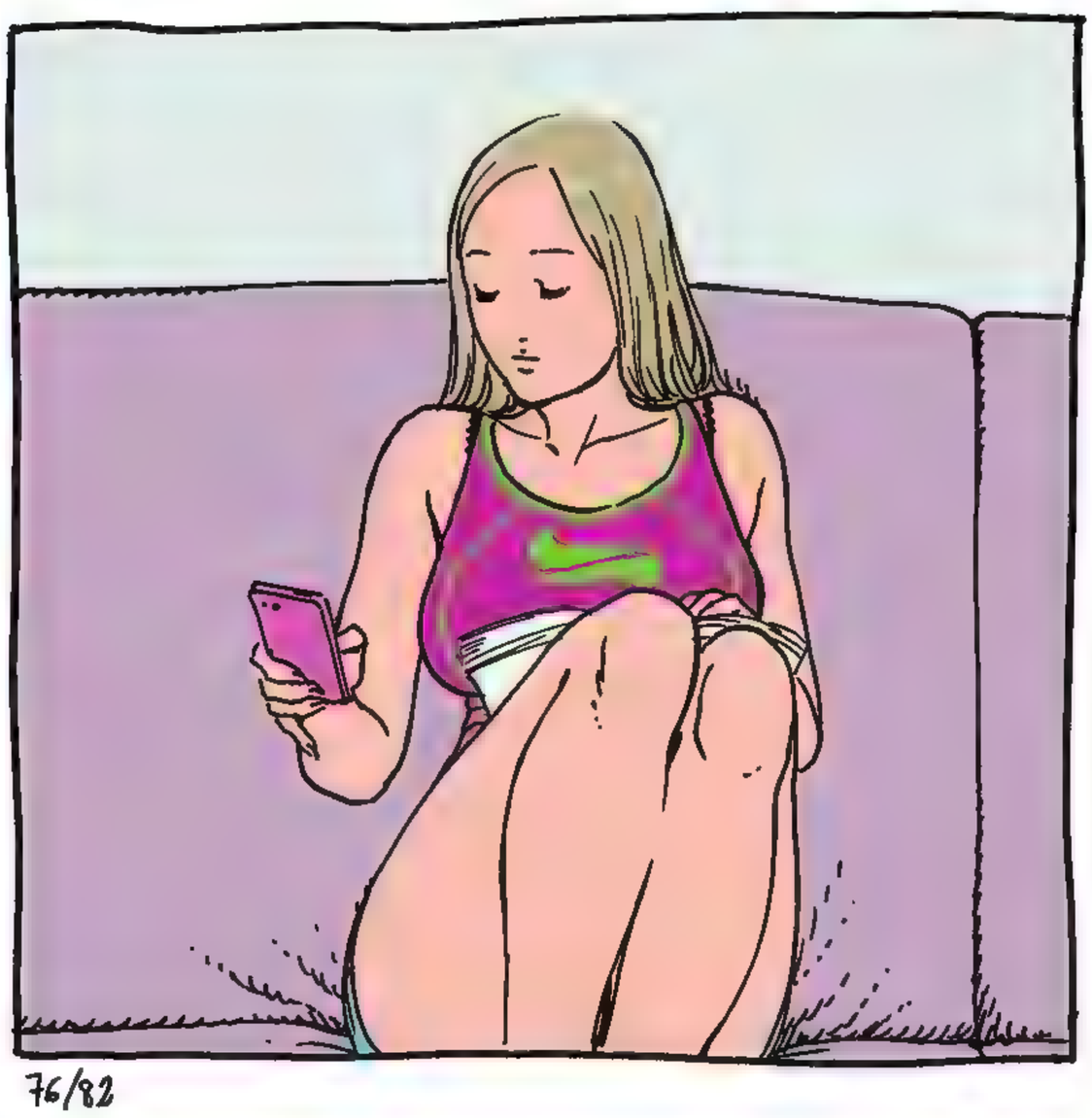
73/82



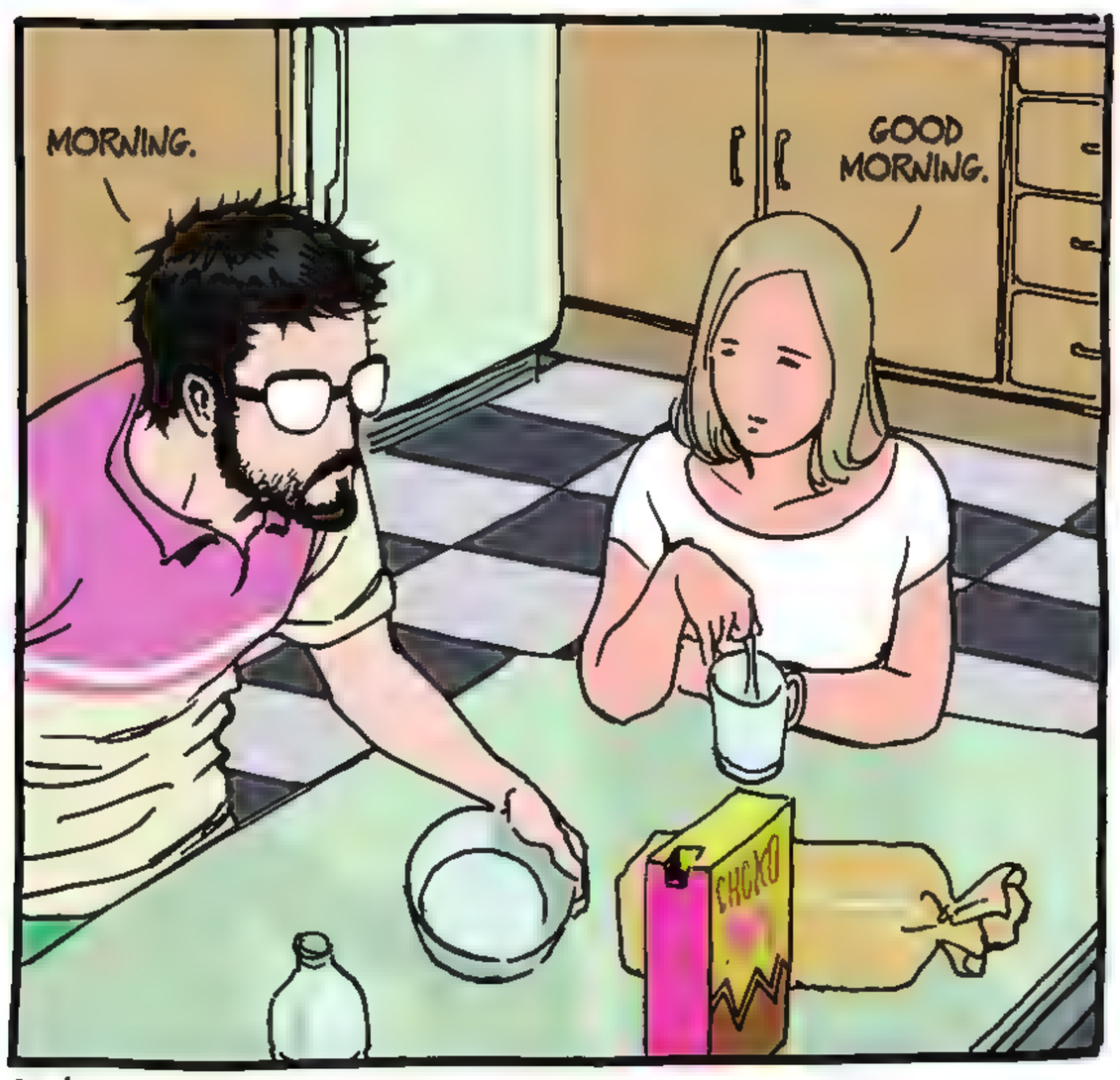
74/82



75/82



76/82



77/82



78/82

DID IT WORK, YOUR FACEBOOK RECRUITING ANNOUNCEMENT FROM YESTERDAY?

79/82

ACTUALLY YES. I WAS EVEN SURPRISED. THREE GIRLS SENT ME PRIVATE MESSAGES.

ONE LIVES TOO FAR, DISMISSED.

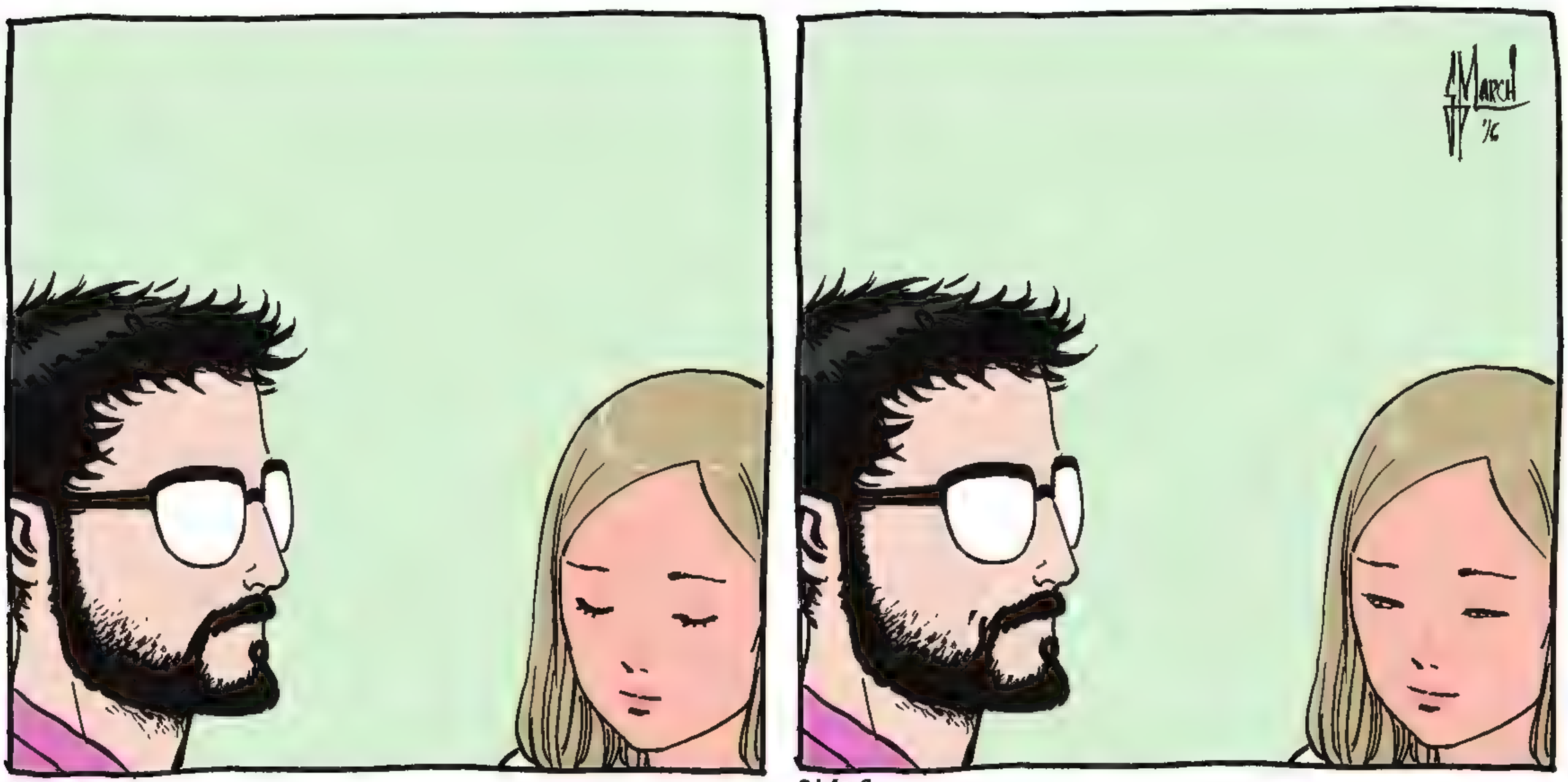
THE SECOND ONE WAS MY WORKMATE IN A FORMER PART-TIME JOB. SHE'S CUTE. I WAS REPLYING TO HER WHEN I GOT THE MESSAGE FROM THE THIRD GIRL.

80/82

DO I KNOW HER?

81/82

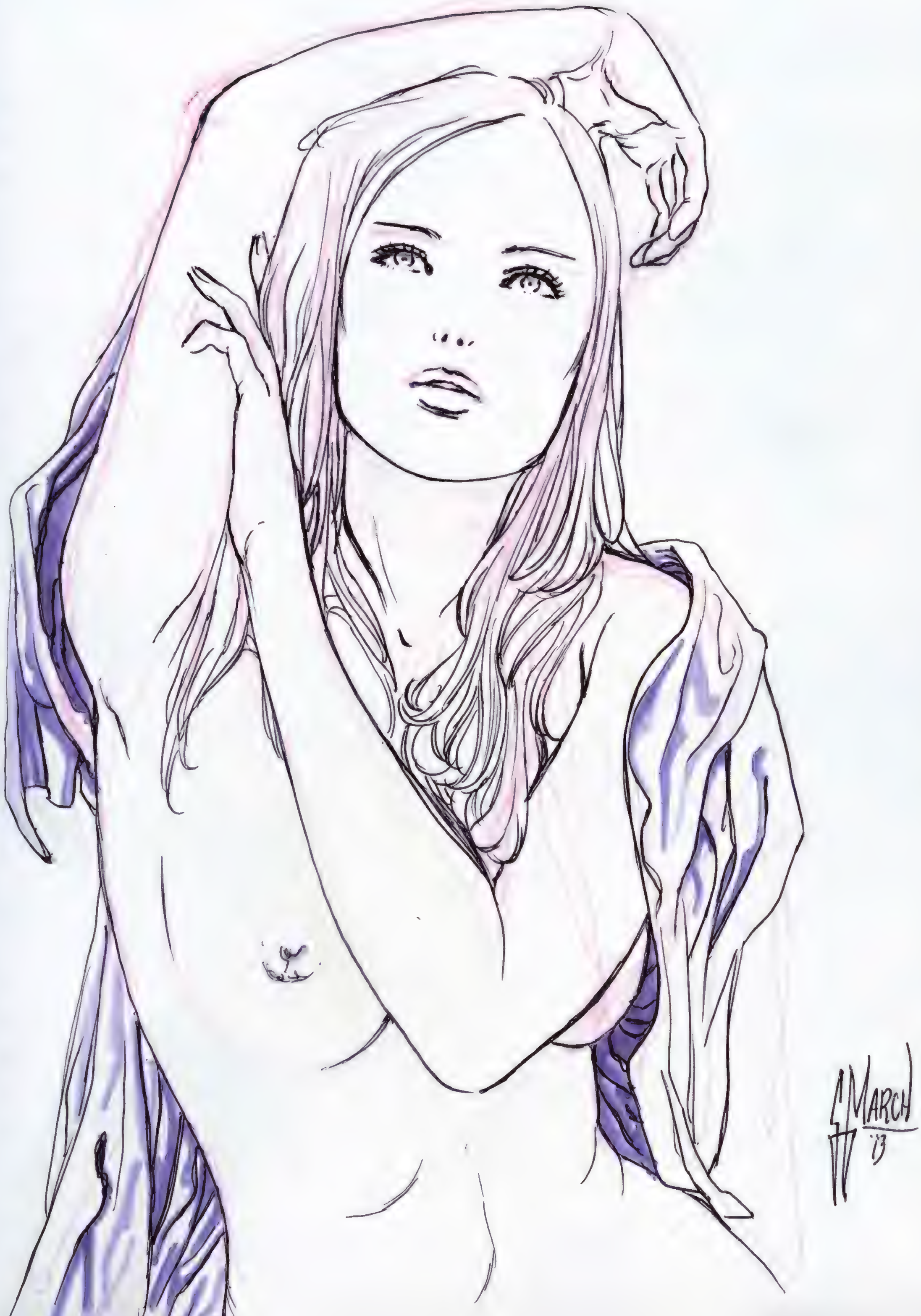
81/82



78/18

78/18




MARCH
'13

The making of a
COVER

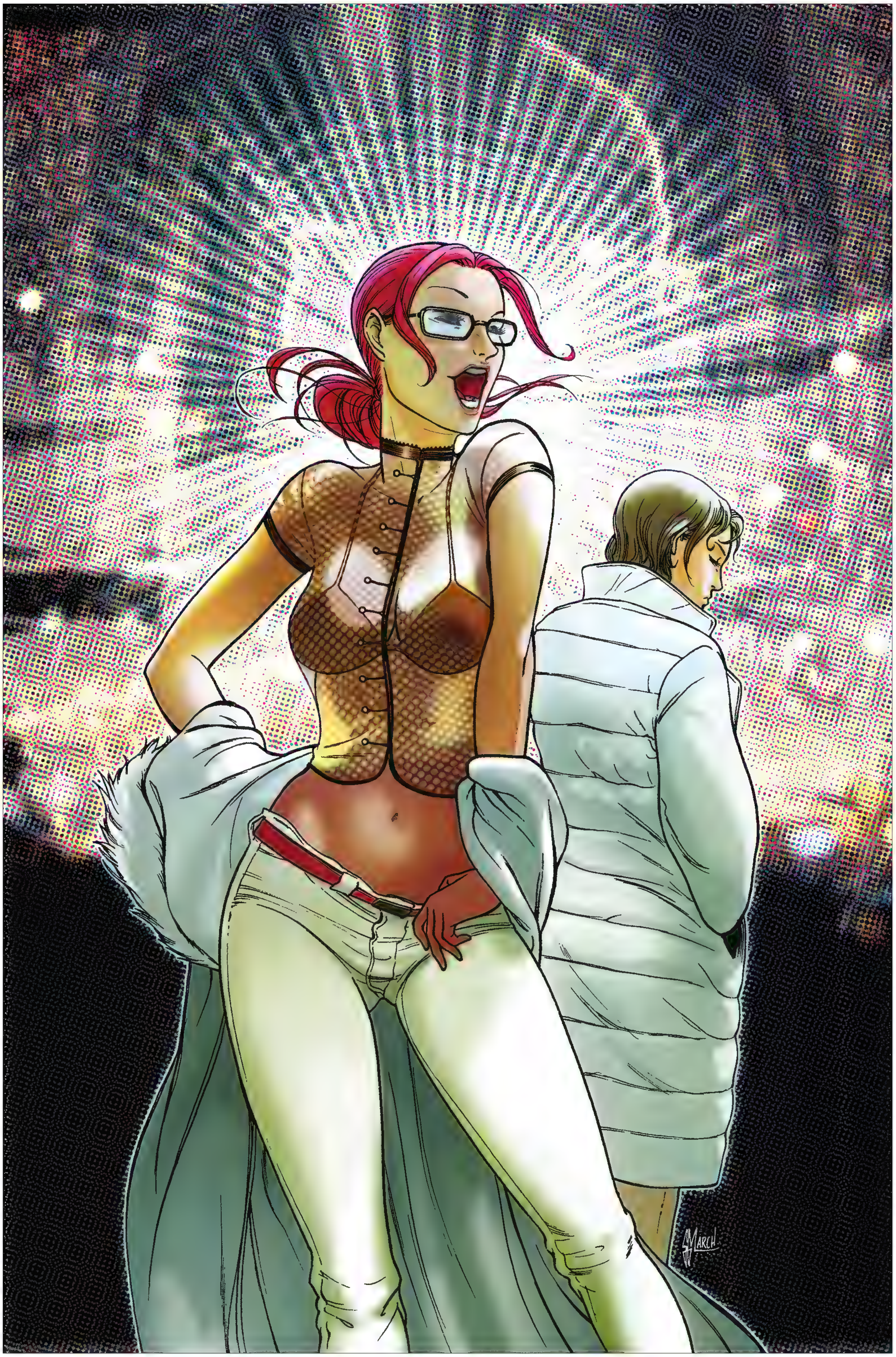


COVER GALLERY

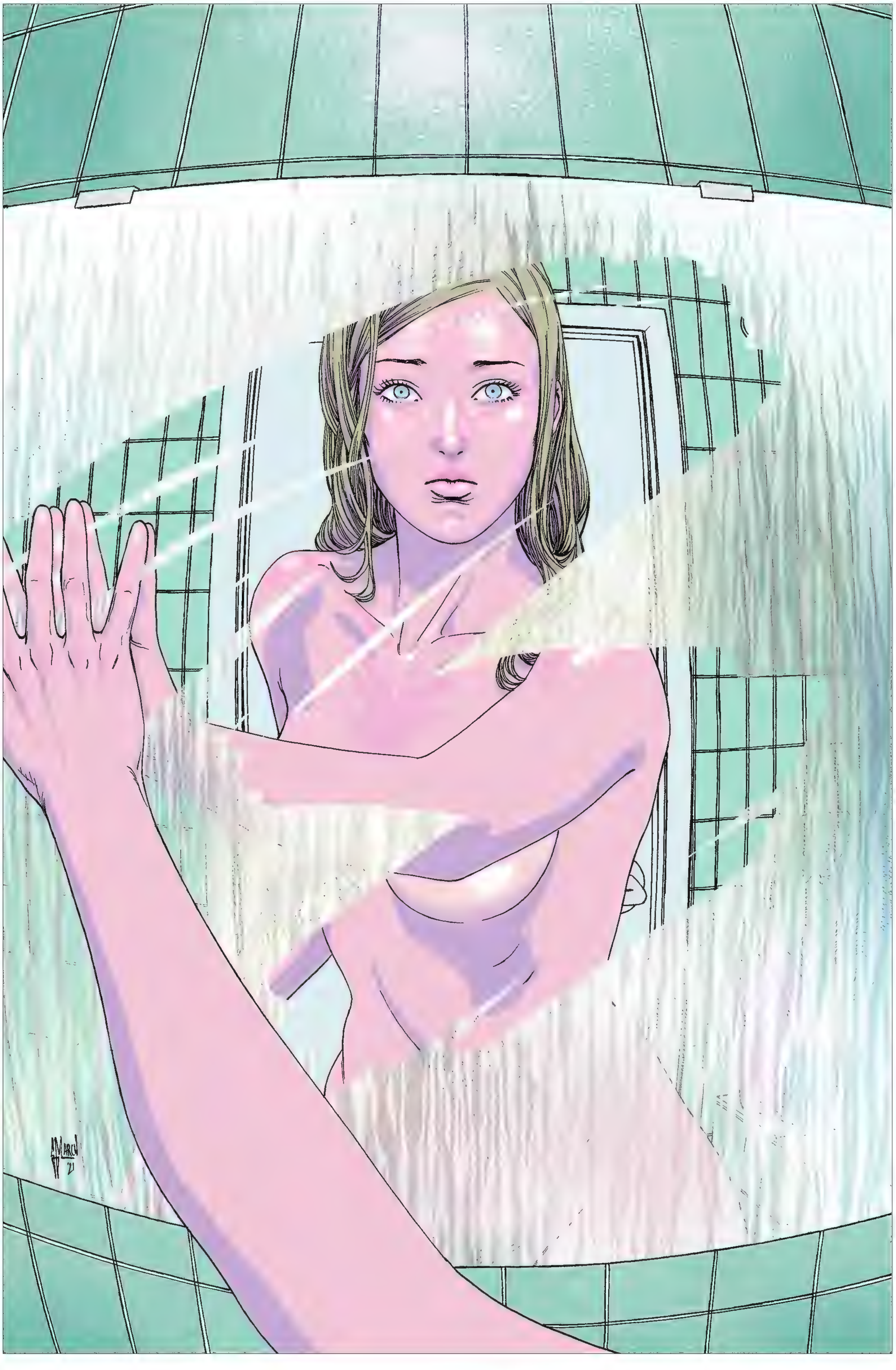




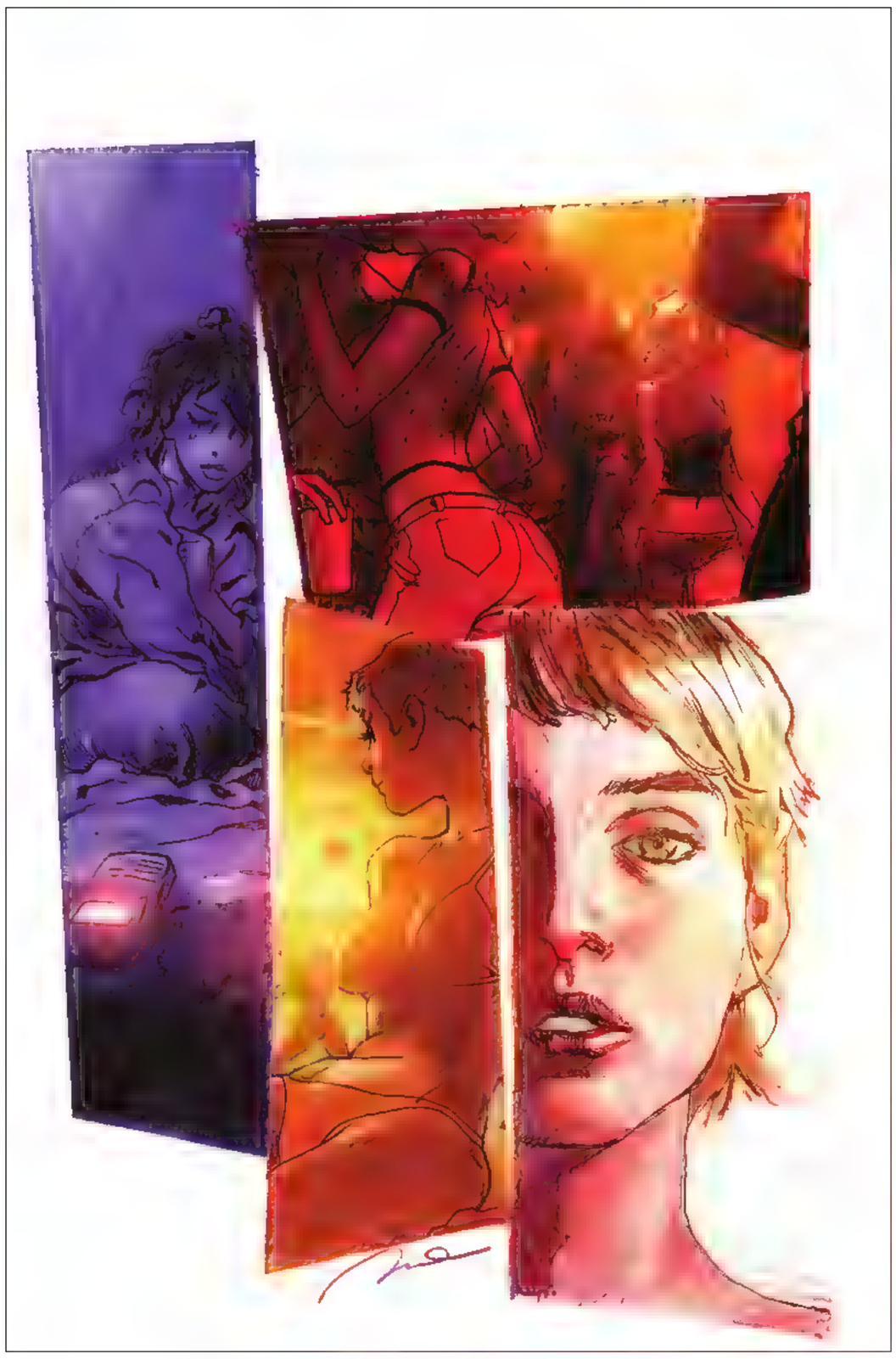
ISSUE #1 MAIN COVER
BY GUILLEM MARCH



ISSUE #2 MAIN COVER
BY GUILLEM MARCH



ISSUE #3 MAIN COVER
BY GUILLEM MARCH



ISSUE #1 VARIANT COVER
BY GERALD PAREL

FROM THE ARTIST OF *BATMAN* AND *THE JOKER*!

GUILLEM MARCH

LAURA

AND OTHER STORIES

ABLAZE 1

ISSUE #1 BLANK COVER



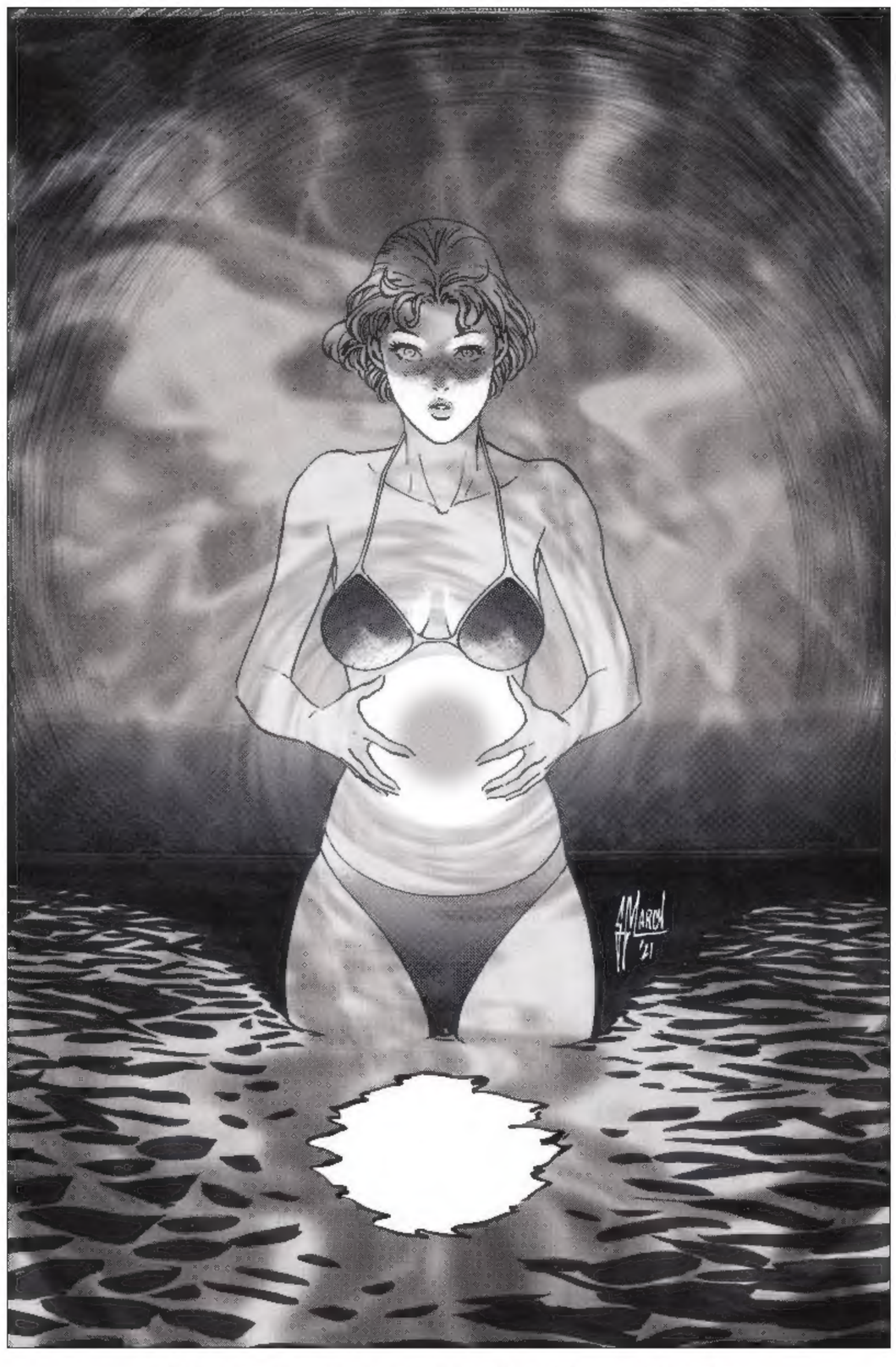
ISSUE #1 B&W VARIANT COVER
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ISSUE #1 B&W VARIANT COVER
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ISSUE #1 SKETCH COVER
BY GUILLEM MARCH



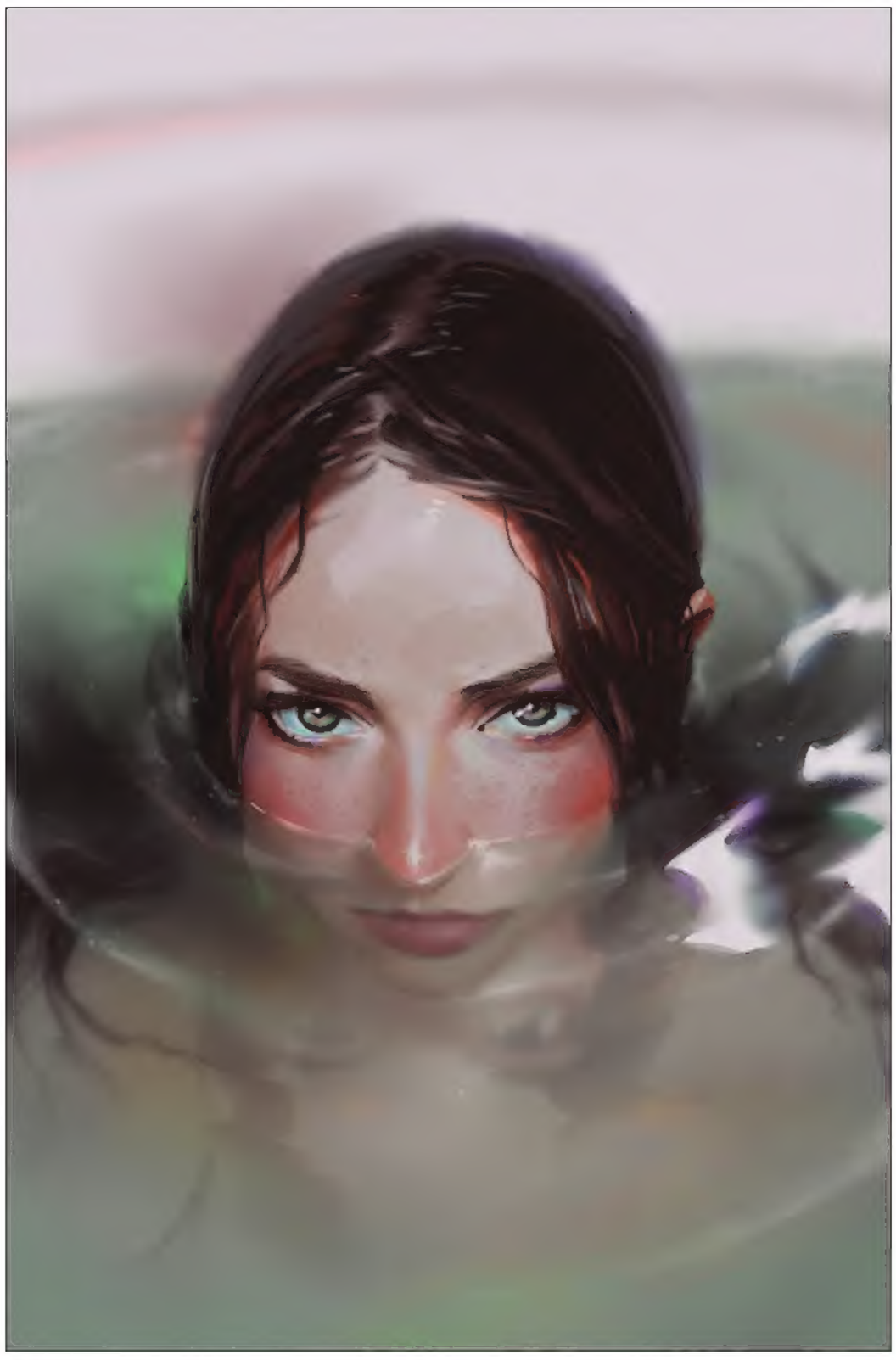
ISSUE #1 FOC VARIANT COVER
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ISSUE #2 B&W VARIANT COVER
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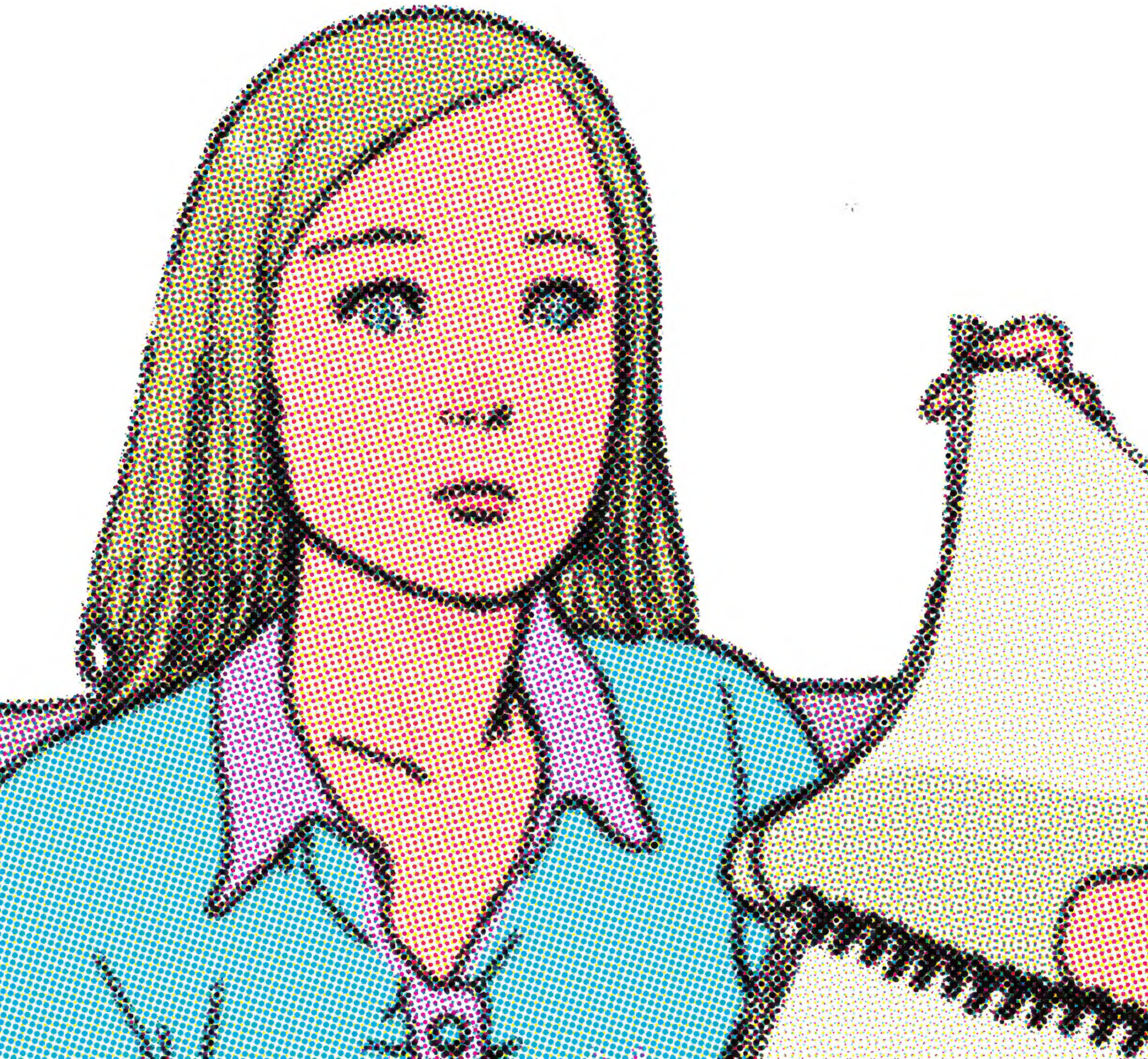
ISSUE #2 B&W VARIANT COVER
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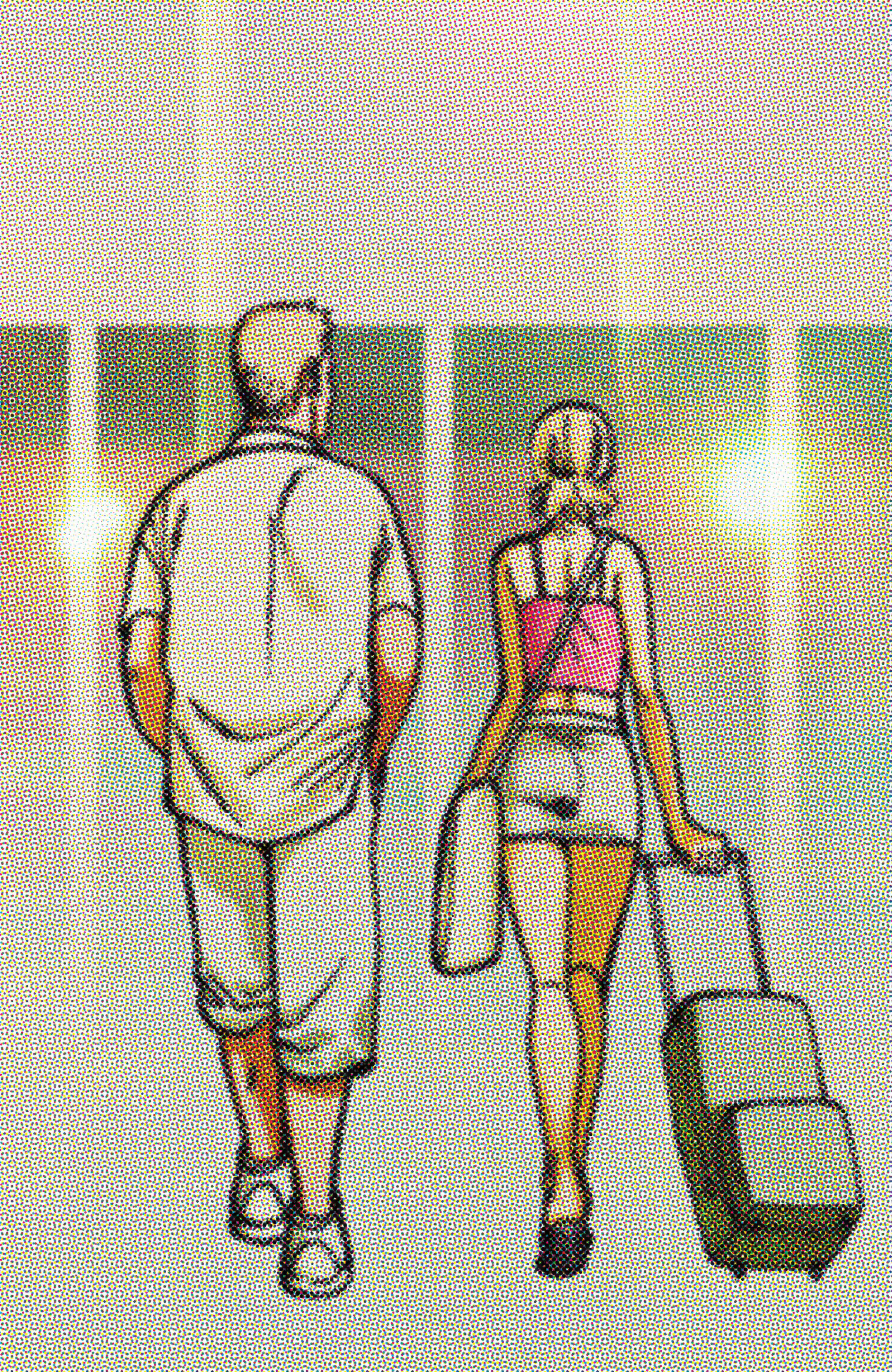


ISSUE #3 VARIANT COVER
BY MONIKA PALOSZ



ISSUE #3 SKETCH VARIANT COVER
GUILLEM MARCH





Before his work on *Batman* and the hit *Joker* series, before he created *Karmen*, there was the heartfelt story of *Laura*, the book that led Guillem March to the mainstream comics world!

Suffering from the ever-painful experience of unrequited love, twenty-year-old Laura takes a look at her life. Does the fact that the boy she has feelings for is in love with someone else mean there is something wrong with her? Or is that just how young love goes? And what will happen when she tries to get past the hurt and move on with her life?

Laura is an exploration into the mind of a young woman who has experienced something most people have, but in an honest and beautiful way that only Guillem March can bring us.

Other stories in the book include *Irene*, which explores the nature of inspiration and creating art outside of one's comfort zone, thanks to some advice from a role model and a cameo by Guillem himself. And in *Muse*, an artist's search for a model puts how a young woman is perceived by her male roommates into perspective.

"Laura is a beautifully languid story of unrequited love many readers will identify with. The story of one young woman making her way in the thorny and oft-times painful world of young love."
—COMICON.COM

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